Maine Farmer.

AGRICULTURE, MECHANIC ARTS, LITERATURE, NEWS, &c.

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Application of Manure.

There is scarcely any question connected with agriculture about which there has been a greater diversity of opinion than that of the application of manure or in what condition manure should be applied. One set of men embracing both practical and theoretical farmers, contend that manure should be buried by the plow at the bottom of the furrow, while another set equally intelligent and practical, insist that manure should only be covered superficially by means of the harrow. The former claim that the fertilizing matter of which the manure is composed, rises toward the surface, and the other insist that it sinks below the cultivated stratum. We have lately seen these two opposite views ably discussed in our exchanges, and each side was so well presented that, read alone, it seemed to be quite convincing, but on reading both, the question was still left in doubt. But there is one idea which it seems to us has an important bearing upon the question at issue which strangely enough was not referred to by either, viz., the condition of the manure, whether fermented or not.

It has been well established by chemical experiment and we believe the fact is no longer questioned that stable or barn-yard manure loses a large part of its fertilizing properties by fermenting in mass, in a situation exposed to the influence of rain and sun. A partial decomposition takes place and the gaseous and the most soluble part of the heap are either scattered by the winds or washed out by rains. It is equally as well settled that if the fermentation takes place in the soil, these gaseous and soluble portions of the manure are absorbed by the earth and retained there until they are imbibed by the spongioles or mouths of the young crop plants, and that they thereby essentially contribute to its growth and development. Now if long, unfermented manure is spread upon the surface, these gaseous matters are lost precisely as they are from the fermenting manure heap, for they are specifically lighter than atmosphoric air as is shown to the common observer in the steam that arises from the manure heap during the process of fermentation. The soluble parts will not however, be lost as in the case of the fermentation of the heap. But if the long manure is only partially covered by the harrow, it will only be partially fermented for lack of moisture, an agent without which there could be no fermentation; and without fermentation or cooking to some extent, the fertilizing matter in the manure cannot be taken up and assimilated by the plant.

If on the other hand the long and green manure is covered deep with the plow, it not only benefits by the gaseous matters which the earth absorbs, but it generates heat and benefits mechanically by rendering the soil more open and friable, and more permeable to warmth, air and moisture; it also facilitates the decomposition of plant food, accelerates growth and increases product. Then, fermentation having exhausted its powers during the first season, and the cultivation of the hoed crops (the only crop to which long dressing should be applied,) the following year the plow turns up to the surface, the carbonaceous matter of the manure which remains, and which is highly valuable to the crop which follows. An objection to this plan and the only one we have ever heard is, that if long manure is buried deep by the plow in preference to mixing it with the surface soil, the rain will carry down its fertilizing matters beyond the reach of the absorbents of the plants. This seems at first to be a plausible theory, but we doubt its correctness. If the fertilizing portions of the manure should, to any very great extent, be carried into the subsoil, the subsoil would itself, become filled with fertility and would only require to be brought up to the surface and exposed for a short time to the influence of the sun and rain, to render it capable of supporting a luxuriant vegetation. We doubt if such a condition of the subsoil were ever found, and so far as our experience and observation go, all subsoils require long continued exposure at the surface and heavy manuring to render them fertile.

Our rule therefore, is to bury unfermented manure with the plow, by which plan, the major part of its good qualities is taken up and held by the soil, in readiness for the young crop. With fermented manures, on the other hand, or those which will undergo but slight fermention such as rotted dung, bone meal, etc., the tendency of which is to sink into the soil, we would apply a different rule. These subserve the purposes of agriculture better by blending them by means of the pulverizing harrow, with the surface soil where they will respond more promptly and act more efficiently than if buried deep by the plow. We are in favor however, of having our dressing go through the fermenting process before it is applied to crops, but in order to save the valuable gaseous portions, absorbents must be freely applied during the process of fermentation. Various substances will answer this purpose such as ashes, dried muck, &c., but we have never found anything equal to the finely comminuted dust from a much travelled road. The road is improved by its removal, and its value to the farmer can hardly be over-estimated. To test its absorbing power, just throw a thin stratum into the privy vault and note how quickly all noxious odors disappear. With the modern improvements of which most thrifty farmers have availed themselves, that of keeping the manure heap under cover, there is no longer any damage from rains, and the only but important duty that remains is to prevent waste during the process of fermentation.

Supplement the Hay Crop.

Those farmers whose grass fields have been injured by the drouth and whose supply of hay is likely to be short, should at once put in a piece of corn for fodder. If the silo can be prepared for preserving it, all the better, but dried in the ordinary way it is good feed for stock and will greatly help out a short hay crop. The ground may be a little too dry to plant or sow corn just now, but it can be ploughed, pulverized and dressed and put in readiness to receive the seed when the rain comes which will doubtless be ere long. We are aware that some object to corn fodder being as an unprofitable feed for stock, but as green fodder, it certainly has a value equal to any other crop which has been tried, and if cut at the proper time, its nutritive value will be but little diminished by the process of drying. The principal objection made to it is that it is deficient in albuminoids, an objection that has some force, but there is scarcely any plant that forms a perfect food of itself. To obtain the best results in feeding, whether it be for milk, butter, cheese or flesh, we must feed a variety as every dairyman and stock raiser well knows and will testify. Corn is adopted to almost all soils and good culture rarely fails of producing a good crop. A few tons of good bright corn fodder to feed out late in the fall and in early winter will be found of great value, and corn put in any time this month, of course the sooner the better now, will be likely to attain a growth sufficient to make good fodder.

As the potato crop will be below the average in this State, it should be supplemented by planting turnips. The Swedish turnip will generally do well planted the last of July, and the English flat turnip may be put in with reasonable certainty of a crop somewhat later. The land where early peas have been grown may be made to bear a crop of turnips by means of a liberal dressing of barn yard manure and some special fertilizer. It should be well plowed and thoroughly pulverized. The seed may be sown by hand or in drills, and the land should previously be ridged by turning two furrows together. By means of the hoe a shallow trench should be made on the ridge in which the seed should be deposited and covered to the right depth. After the plants are well up if the Swedish is the kind sown, they should be thinned out to about a foot apart and kept free from weeds. We have known a good crop of English turnips grown among corn, the seed being sown after the last hoeing and covered by means of a garden rake, but we do not think much of this method of growing turnips. Cultivated in this way, they are really weeds among the corn, and the damage to the corn is liable to be more than the value of the turnips. While we earnestly recommend the raising of late turnips, we would have them planted by themselves.

Messina Quails--Query.

MR. EDITOR:—I see by the FARMER that Messina quails have been imported into your State. Will you please describe this quail and state where they are imported from, and what the cost would be per dozen, and how they can be procured? Do you think they would do well on the prairies of the West? Some five years ago, I sent to California and procured four dozen of California quail, and put them out about the first of March. They seemed to be perfectly contented, laid and hatched and were frequently seen with their young through the summer and up to the first of November; then every one disappeared and were never seen after this date. The supposition is they went back to California. Some five or six years ago the sportsmen of New York sent to England and got some English quails and turned them loose in the State; but they all soon disappeared, and in a few weeks an English quail was picked up alive some five hundred miles at sea in the same course the quails were brought from England to New York. The opinion of many is that this was one of the same quails that was brought to New York and was trying to find its way back to its native land. W. O. BLAISDELL.

Macomb, Ill.

The quail imported into Maine the Messina quail, (*coturnix communis*), is the common quail of Asia and many parts of Europe. It is something more than seven inches long, the beak is short and horn-colored, dusty in the summer and ash-gray in winter, like the partridges and common fowls; the iris is olive brown; the feet pale bluish red; on the upper part of the body are rust-red spots, with some small white streaks; the throat is dusky, surrounded by two chestnut brown bands; the front of the neck and the breast are rust-red, with some longitudinal dark streaks; the belly is dusky white; the thighs are reddish gray; the quill-feathers are dark-gray, crossed by many rust-red lines; the tail is short, dark brown, with pale rust-red streaks across it. The female differs sensibly; her throat is white, and her breast, paler than that of the male, is spotted with black like the thrushes. When wild the quail is found throughout the old world. Unlike the other species of poultry, it is a bird of passage, arriving in Europe in May, and departing at the end of September. It is at home in the cornfields, but prefers those of wheat.

In a wild state the quail feeds on wheat, corn, rape seed, millet, hemp seed, and the like. It also eats green vegetables, as well as insects, and particularly ants' eggs. The quail breeds very late, never before July. Its nest, if it can be called so, is a hole scratched in the earth, in which it lays from ten to fourteen bluish white eggs, with large white spots. These are hatched after three weeks' incubation. The young ones, all hairy, follow the mother the moment they leave the shell. Their feathers grow quickly, for in the autumn they are able to depart with her to the southern countries. Beside the beauty of form and plumage, the song of this bird is said to have no slight recommendation.

The quail belongs to the partridge division of gallinacean birds, and about a dozen species are found in North and Central America and in the West Indies. The common American quail is about ten inches long and has an aler (wing) extent of fifteen inches. There is much confusion with regard to the name of this bird. In the northern States, it is called quail but in the middle and southern States it is called partridge; where the name of quail for this bird prevails, the ruffed grouse is called partridge, and where the name partridge is given to the quail, the ruffed grouse is called a pheasant. We have hunted the quail in Maryland and Virginia, and it is very fine sport. In the winter season they are found in large numbers on low bottom lands, in flocks of a dozen or upward. They are timid and usually rise to fly before they are seen by the sportsman and are generally shot on the wing.

The introduction of the migratory quail into Maine, is an experiment and may result as described by our correspondent, but those who have introduced them have strong hopes that they will return here next summer, and continue to return. If the bird will make its summer home with us, we can see no reason why it should not do as well if introduced into the west, but we would suggest to our correspondent that he wait until the experiment shall be fairly tested here. We do not know the cost of bringing them here.

Summer Drinks.

Many persons and especially farm laborers, are in the habit of drinking large quantities of almost ice cold well or spring water, while many others drink the ice water itself. The practice is a bad one, and if persisted in for any great length of time, must result in a serious impairment of the health. Cold water as surely suspends digestion as a refrigerator checks perspiration. It drives from the stomach its natural heat and suspends the flow of the gastric juices for the time being, and produces a severe shock upon the delicate organs with which it comes in contact. If persisted in, the stomach soon becomes weak, its power to digest the food grows less and less, and indigestion and dyspepsia with all their train of woes is sure to be the result.

An able writer on human diseases says that "habitual ice water drinkers are usually very flabby about the region of the stomach. They complain that their food lies heavy on that patient organ. They taste their dinner for hours after it is bolted. They cultivate the use of stimulants to aid digestion. If they are intelligent, they read upon food and what the physiologist has to say about it—how long it takes cabbage and pork and beef and potatoes and other meats and esculents to go through the process of assimilation. They roar at new bread, hot cakes and fried meat, imagining these to have been the cause of their maladies. But the ice water goes down all the same, and finally friends are called in to take a farewell look at one whom a mysterious Providence has called to a clime where, as far a is known, ice water is not used. The number of immortal beings who go hence, to return no more, on account of an injudicious use of ice water, can hardly be estimated."

As a substitute for ice water, home made beer, crust coffee and water sweetened with molasses and charged with ginger have been recommended for laboring men; but none are very satisfactory. Ginger is liable to over stimulate the stomach and produce inflamation of that organ, and beer often sours after being imbibed, causing the remedy for the thirst to be more disagreeable than the thirst itself. Water in all its purity does not always seem to satisfy the thirsty laboring man. It produces additional perspiration and passes through the pores as it would pass through a seive, leaving the system exhausted and weak. Large draughts of cold water often so react upon the heated system as to produce almost instant death. In England, a drink is prepared by mixing oat meal with water in the proportion of three ounces of the best meal to a gallon of water. It is allowed to stand before use until the nutritive principles are washed out by the water which requires only a short time, and then it is found more satisfactory in quenching the thirst of the working men, than any other drink. It satisfies the thirst much better than sweetened water and, at the same time, produces additional strength of body. Good oat meal possesses a peculiar and not disagreeable aroma and acts as a stimulant to the surface of the skin so as to cause the digestion of the liquid. Men who use it soon become fond of it, and when at work under a burning sun are much comforted by it. It has been successfully tried by many in this country and with uniform good results.

Notes.

The army worm is making steady advances northward and eastward. In its invasion, it has been along the south shore in Massachusetts, and was reported at Newburyport, and at Portsmouth, N. H., last week; also in York county of this State. The pest is reported at Waterbury, Vermont, and is also doing much damage to the hop fields of California. We hope, as the season is considerably advanced, that Maine may escape its ravages.

Mr. Bodwell is putting in a large area of corn for fodder notwithstanding the dry weather. He is plowing up sward ground after cutting off the hay and dressing heavily with unfermented stable manure, and pulverizes with the Randall harrow which works admirably. He proposes to place this fodder in a silo which he will build immediately after haying, and feed it to his animals next winter and spring. He has full faith in this process of preserving green fodder.

The quarantine on Mr. Bodwell's imported Herefords expired the 9th, and the animals are now out to pasture. We saw the herd Tuesday evening and they are looking finely. They have gained in flesh since their arrival and have improved every way. They are still visited by large numbers of people from near and from far, and there is but one opinion expressed regarding them, and that is, that "this is the handsomest herd of animals they ever saw." Coombs the artist, is painting some of the finer animals with the view of having engravings made. We hope ere long to be able to present our readers with cuts of some of these animals.

Mr. Adam Scott, a prominent Maine sheep breeder, last winter fed 330 wethers, and to discern how rapidly they were gaining in flesh selected two which he weighed every month. On the 12th of January they weighed respectively 120 and 136 pounds, and continued to gain steadily up to the 12 of April, when they weighed 150 and 170. They were fed on 1½ pounds of corn daily with all the hay they could eat. The total cost for feed being estimated at 17 cents per month, while the gain in flesh was equal to 37 cents per month—an increase of about 20 cents per month for each sheep over the value of food eaten.

At a trial of thirteen varieties of wheat on the farm of the Eastern Experiment Station, West Grove Pennsylvania, in 1878, the heaviest yield per acre in straw and grain was obtained from the Swamp wheat, a variety which originated in Sciota County, Ohio. But while it gave the best yield, the straw was very weak, and on rich land would lodge very badly. All the varieties were sown after oats, and in nearly as possible the same condition. This variety was also the heaviest per struck bushel, viz., 62½ pounds. The best result was obtained where the seed was drilled in, two bushels of seed per acre being used in all cases. Wheat cultivated in gave 1,956 lbs. of straw and 29.44 bushels per acre; that sown broadcast and harrowed in gave 2,160 pounds of straw and 26.66 bushels of grain, and that drilled in gave 3,316 pounds of straw and 27.04 bushels of grain.

Crop Reports for July.

Special to the Maine Farmer.

THE DROUTH SEVERE IN SOME LOCAITIES, WHILE IN OTHERS IT HAS CAUSED BUT LITTLE DAMAGE. THE HAY CROP WILL BE ABOVE THE AVERAGE. GRAIN AND THE HOED CROPS PROMISING WELL. THE BEETLES SUCCESSFULLY RESISTED. THE FRUIT CROP WILL NOT BE SO LARGE AS WAS HOPED IN THE SPRING. THE OUTLOOK STILL ENCOURAGING. FARMERS NOT DESPONDENT.

Below we lay before our readers reports from our special correspondents showing the condition of the crops in this State on the first of July. The continued dry weather has affected the hay crop quite severely in some localities, while in others, frequent showers have mitigated the effects of the drouth. It is evident that the hay crop in this State will be above the average and the fine weather of the past two weeks will insure an excellent quality of hay. Grain, especially early sown, is reported looking finely, and corn and potatoes promises well. On the whole, the outlook for the farmers of Maine is very good and they have no cause for discouragement. Our thanks are due to our correspondents for the promptness with which they have made their reports.

ANDROSCOGGIN. Hay an average crop, being light on soils that feel the drouth most. Corn good. Potatoes medium with many bugs, which most farmers dose with Paris green and London purple. Grain promises well. Ground very dry.
Turner. RUFUS PRINCE.

ANDROSCOGGIN. Hay crop will be cut short by drought. Indications now that it will fall slightly short of an average. Corn growing finely and promising well. Potatoes same. Beetles not so plenty as last year. Grain of all kinds in the main looking well. On some very dry lands it will be cut short by the drouth. Apples a light crop. Haying just begun generally.
Turner. Z. A. G.

AROOSTOOK. Our drouth which was short, was broken June 22d. with refreshing rain. Since the frequent showers the grass has taken a new start. Herdsgrass just beginning to blossom; estimated one-half to two-thirds of a crop. Potatoes are doing well. No beetle as yet to trouble. Grains are coming forward rapidly. Most probably the straw will be short. Corn and beets are backward as yet.
Houlton. FRANCIS BARNES.

CUMBERLAND. The prospect for fruit and other farm crops in this section remain about the same as at your last report. We had no rain for three weeks in June which ripened off the grass on light lands, but the yield of hay will be about the same as last year. Many of our farmers have commenced cutting their grass. The potato bugs are more numerous than on previous years, and our farmers have had to resort to Paris green, which proves a sure remedy for these pests of our potato fields. Potatoes, corn and all other farm products are thriving well, and with the usual amount of rain during the summer, good crops will be harvested this fall. I found that many of the clusters of the eggs of the potato beetle had turned black and dried up on the leaves, before they commenced hatching, probably caused by some parasite, which I hope may prove the case.
Brunswick. M.

CUMBERLAND. The crops in this town look well. The farmers do not hire as much as formerly, and generally plant only as much as they can attend to themselves. The outlook for hay is up to the average, and the yield is in excess of last year, but the continued hot and dry weather has ripened the hay and the farmers are anxious to commence and many are already hard at work. Potatoes look well and early potatoes are now ready for market. The hot weather has sent corn forward. Wheat and oats look well. Our laborers are all employed at good wages. With a population of nearly 3500, there are only six all told who receive help from the town of Gorham. R.

CUMBERLAND. The drouth which we have had has had a very bad effect upon the hay crop and is ripening it off very fast. If we had had hard rains two weeks ago I think the hay crop would have been more than an average, as it is, do not think it will be an average crop; other crops are not suffering much as yet, but will ere long unless we have a plenty of rain.
Naples. N. A. CHURCH.

CUMBERLAND. During the last month we had a severe drouth of nearly three weeks, ending on the 25th; since since then we have had several refreshing showers. The grass suffered much and corn was retarded in growth. The late rains have helped grass considerably, and corn, potatoes and grain are looking nicely now. Potato beetles are still at work; the first crop of slugs is already hatched and eating briskly. I think the hay crop will be less than an average one. Many farmers have commenced haying this week and with good weather the crop will be secured in excellent order. Wheat has commenced heading, and promises well; oats ditto. We have very warm days but generally cool nights. The rose bug is doing much injury to vines and young fruit trees and threatens to be a formidable pest in the future. G. FERNALD.
Harrison.

FRANKLIN. In this part of Franklin county the absence of rain has retarded the growth of some crops on lands of light texture. This is especially true of wheat and other sowed crops; but mainly crops of all kinds are looking well. Potatoes and corn are coming forward well, especially the latter during the late hot weather. Generally grain is looking well. The grass crop is not quite so heavy as the early season gave promise of, but we are greatly mistaken if the hay crop does not rate considerably above an average this year. Many commenced haying the last week in June. Potato bugs are abundant and Paris green the universal remedy. L. F. ABBOTT.
Wilton.

KENNEBEC. Corn and grain has suffered some for want of sufficient rain. The bugs are paying particular attention to the potatoes. The hail storm injured potatoes and garden vegetables to some extent. Grass is looking quite well being some ten days earlier than usual, and the harvest is upon us in earnest. Cattle are doing very well in the pastures. Labor commands a good price and all are encouraged. J. M. C.
Pittston.

FRANKLIN. In this vicinity hay falls off about one-third. Wheat and oats rather more sown than last year and looking first rate. Corn looking well, not quite as much planted as last season: potatoes looking well, the bugs not so plenty as last season; apples, a good crop; no pears nor cherries, and very few plums; strawberries not very plenty; raspberries good if we have rains; blueberries about here very few; blackberries with seasonable rains good, but were suffering for water; but this week have had copious showers and a half-day of steady rain that makes vegetation look green and fresh: wheat will keep with more rain. The hay crop in this vicinity gathered. Some have put in considerable this week, and lots are out in the Friday rain. The potato bugs have come out anew within a few days, they are all over the ground in some sections. Not a grasshopper or caterpillar to be seen. S. DILL.
Phillips.

KENNEBEC. Hay and grain crop will fall short 30 per cent. from last year. If the drouth continues all crops will be lessened very much. Potato bug crop full.
China. F. O. BRAINERD.

KENNEBEC. We have had but little rain for the month. Grass looked very promising in the early part of the season, but on account of the very dry weather, the hay crop will not be as large as last season; a fat crop is being got in. The farmers I should say have secured already more than half of their hay. Potato bugs are plenty. Corn looks well. The grain crop will be good if we get rain soon; is looking well. The prospect is more than an average crop of fruit. CHAS. F. STEVENS.
West Waterville.

KENNEBEC. Weather hot and dry. Showers frequent. Haying commenced. Grass an average crop; excellent quality. Early sowed grain looking well, late sowing poorly. Corn and potatoes good; potato beetles numerous. Paris green the sure remedy. Sugar beets, but few planted; seed came badly; poorly started and yet looking well. Fruit fair. W. H. PEARSON.
Vassalboro.

Have had less rain fall in June than for many years. Some progress made in haying. Grass one week earlier than last year, not as good as anticipated two weeks ago; will be an average crop. Prospect for other crops fairly good. Stock doing well. Need rain. Colorado beetles plenty but kept under by the Paris green. Help for haying scarce. N. R. PIKE.
Winthrop.

LINCOLN. Hay crop good; would have been extra if we had had rains in June, as the grass started uncommonly well in early spring. Corn looks well; in fact grain of all kinds looks well. Beans and potatoes fair. Beetles fair to middling, rather under in comparison with last year. Apples plenty. Garden vegetables good. Squash bugs scarce. We are now feeling the want of a good rain very much.
Jefferson. JOHN BODGE.

LINCOLN. We are having very fine weather. Farmers have been haying; shall have an average crop. Farm crops of all kinds doing well; more seed sown than in former years; the potato bug is plenty where he is not meddled with, but we are giving them Paris green in return; but few have contracted to grow the sugar beet for market. I would say that coal ashes is the best fertilizer for fruit trees for their growth. F. S.
Dresden.

LINCOLN. Crops generally have looked well from the start. A good crop of grass is assured, I think fully up to an average generally and beyond it in many towns. Potatoes look remarkably well and the beetle, in this vicinity, has not done much mischief. Hand picking persistent, and London purple follows them pretty diligent, and so there is no peace for the wicked. Very few contracts for sugar beets this year, but farmers are raising them for their hogs and cattle. A very severe hail storm swept over this town and vicinity the 21st, with thunder, lightning and a torrent of rain, very terrifying for half an hour; little or no wind however, none like it here since July 11, 1824, fifty-six years ago. This last one lodged the grass and grain and pounded the fruit and gardens severely, but killed millions of bugs also. JUNIOR.
Wiscasset.

OXFORD. The frequent rains continue to improve the looks of crops of all kinds. Grass is good, and farmers are commencing to hay in earnest. Potato beetles are numerous, but Paris green thins them out wonderfully. Some complaint is made that the apple crop is blighting, but the prospect is enough will remain to make the crop a good one. Grasshoppers have not yet shown themselves in any force, and pests to garden vegetables have been very few. Crops of all kinds are very forward, and the outlook to farmers in this vicinity is quite flattering. A. C.
Woodstock.

OXFORD. There has been no radical change in the agricultural aspect since my last report. From present appearances we shall expect good crops of corn and grain, and also a fair yield of potatoes from the small acreage improved. Farmers are disposed to make war upon the potato bug, and will use Paris green as the chief and effective weapon. This section has suffered somewhat from protracted drought, and the hay crop will not be so heavy as predicted early in the season. The yield of fruit will be fair. Vines are unusually promising, and the squash bug and currant worm are very scarce. Appearances indicate a good yield of garden vegetables, and they are unusually free from those pests that cause so much trouble to the gardener. At the present date nothing serious except drought on sandy lands that threatens the crop prospect. On the whole, our farmers are cheerful and confident of a fair reward for their labors, and hope soon to see the "good time coming." T.
East Sumner. S. ROBINSON, JR.

OXFORD. Have had recent showers, and crops are looking nicely. The enemy of the potato is at hand, and the crop depends largely on the fight the farmers give him. Grass is nearly ready for the scythe, and to appearances a good crop will be secured. Hops in this section have been mostly plowed up and what is left are looking poorly. Dogs are making their usual depredations among sheep and lambs; a neighbor had several very valuable ones killed by them. K. P.
Bryant's Pond.

OXFORD. Hay crop will be large. Cereals growing rapidly. Corn rather late. Potatoes promise well. Apples will not be very abundant. Frequent showers of late have caused everything to grow rapidly, and promise good crops. No attention is paid to potato bugs till the slugs appear, when we dose them with Paris green.
Bethel. N. T. TRUE.

OXFORD. Crops of all kinds are growing luxuriantly. Corn especially, has got a better start than at this date last year. Potato bugs are flourishing as well as everything else. The slugs are hatching on early planted pieces. The apple crop in this vicinity will not, I think, come up to that of last year. Farmers are beginning to cut early clover and will take hold of haying quite generally next week.
West Bethel. D. B. G.

PENOBSCOT. Hay fair. Apples of excellent quality, two-thirds of last year's crop, with abundant blossoms; the fruit will be light. All cereals are looking finely, but are suffering for rain. Winter wheat came out well, and there will be a good crop where sown on good land. Vines of all kinds look well; no vine bugs. Roots of all kinds look well, especially sugar beets; if we have seasonable rains, there will be heavy yields. Potato bugs very troublesome; those having a large area planted will have hard work to save them. Corn is very forward; looks splendid. Drouth getting very severe.
Hampden. DAVID BROWN.

Since my last report on crops it has been very dry, consequently the hay crop falls short of my expectations at that time. Other crops are making as good progress as can reasonably be looked for considering the drouth. Potatoes are rather small but we have recently had a fine shower which will give them a new start. Bugs are numerous in some sections. On the whole, the various crops are looking very well in this part of the county. In some parts they have been favored with more rain than here. J. THISSELL.
East Corinth.

PISCATAQUIS. Hay is coming in lighter than last year. Many up-land farmers will not cut more than two-thirds of a crop. Did not have a rain storm in June, and but few showers. Grain seems to stand the dry weather better than grass, and is looking finely. Wheat is heading remarkably well. Corn is good, but came up uneven unless covered quite deep. There are no vine bugs, and pumpkins, squashes and cucumbers are growing well. Too dry for beets and turnips. Potatoes are looking well, but the eggs of the potato bug are hatching and must be kept down to insure the crop; but the yield will be small unless we have rain. E. E. STURTEVANT.
Milo.

PISCATAQUIS. Hay crop on high culture, heavy; on land in good condition, average; on lower grades light. The crop will average about sixty-seven per cent. of the last three years. Early seeded crops of all kinds looking well, early sowed grain especially; late seeded suffering severely from drouth. Breadth of grain, potatoes and corn quite up to the average. Potato bugs troublesome, but not particularly destructive. A. M. ROBINSON.
Dover.

PISCATAQUIS. Spring opened ten days earlier than last spring; the usual varieties of crops were put in; the acreage of potatoes is not so large as last year, our varieties are the early Vermont, late Rose and Prolific; other crops are fully equal to those of years previous. The grass has been injured to a considerable extent by drouth and there will not be an average crop of hay harvested the present season. Other crops are looking finely; the apple crop looks promising. The farmers are having their hoeing finished, ready to take the scythe, and in some localities the click of the mower is already heard. We are having clear, warm weather at present and a good hay season is wished for. Following the hay harvest comes the blueberry harvest which at present looks promising on the mountains, and a long line of teams usually conveys persons beginning on Monday the third week in July, and the roads are blockaded for a week going to and returning from the fields, some taking their tents with them and remaining on the ground for a term of days. Shearing sheep the last of April is coming into practice where it has not been the custom in years previous and gives good satisfactisn; wool sold then at from 37½ to 38 cents per pound. At our village market, potatoes are selling at 35 cents per bushel; yellow eye beans two dollars; butter 18 cents; milk 4 cents a quart. Recently an experiment has been made of putting some potato beetles into a live crow's crop, the next morning the crow was found dead. With us the beetle is very numerous. They are reported to be as numerous elsewhere. Last year on Saplin Township where there are but two farms, one situated twelve and the other eighteen miles from the foot of Mooschead Lake and no tillage nearer than the lake the bugs were reported. The quarries, four in number, are running at full blast. JAMES WYMAN.
Monson.

PINE GROVE FARM. We are having nice weather for haying and have secured about 40 tons in very fine condition; think we shall get 10 per cent more than last year, some 100 to 120 tons; old fields are about the same as last year. It is too dry for grain and hoed crops, yet our beets are looking quite well. Potato bugs are very plenty and we apply Paris green with one of Ruggies' potato bug exterminators. Stock is looking well; pastures are holding out much better than I should think possible. H. C. A.
Hallowell.

STATE COLLEGE. Have commenced haying; there will be about three-quarters the crop of last year. Potato bugs are plenty. I am using London purple. Corn and grain are light owing to the longdrouth. Fruit looks fair. Sugar beets look well but need rain. T. G. RICH.
Orono.

SOMERSET. Hay crop a full average, a week or ten days earlier than last year. Corn and potatoes looking well. Potato beetles plenty. Grain looks well, but rain is now much needed in this neighborhood. Apples not more than an average.
Pittsfield. A. LEAVITT.

SOMERSET. For the past few weeks, the weather has been very dry; hence our crops are not doing so well as they promised in the spring. The potato crop is likely to be reduced greatly by the beetle, though some of our farmers are using Paris green pretty freely. Corn is looking nicely. Haying has begun in earnest and some of our farmers are getting pretty well under way. With most farmers it will be more than an average crop. As a general thing, grain is looking well and pretty forward. EDWARD F. DANFORTH.
Norridgewock.

SOMERSET. The severe drouth has done great injury to all hoed and field crops in Southern Somerset and Northern Kennebec. Farmers are now hard at work securing their hay crop which is fast losing ground. The promise in May was for a large yield, but unless rains come immediately we shall not secure more than a half crop. Many fields of grain have dried up, which started well. Potatoes, corn and beets are doing well under the circumstances. Potato bugs are in abundance and many farmers are neglecting to use proper precautions, on account of their fears of Paris green. Apples are doing well. Wells and cisterns are dry and rain is greatly needed. T.
Fairfield.

SAGADAHOC. The sharp drouth prevailing here in June has damaged the hay crop from the early promise of that month fully 15 per cent. The quality however is excellent and it is being secured in fine order. Other crops are still generally promising well, though the grain has suffered somewhat from the drouth. Fruits with the exception of cherries are promising fairly. The potato bug is still with us, though apparently not so voracious as last year.
Bowdoinham. T. B. READ.

TOGUS FARM. Our grass crop, now being harvested, is very good, and will exceed that of last year fifteen or twenty per cent. Owing to drouth, the roots are not doing so well, still with a little rain we shall not fall below previous years.
W. S. T.

WASHINGTON. Crops are progressing finely. Grass on old fields very light. On new fields an average crop. Grain of all kinds, early planted, looks well; some pieces, planted about the commencement of the dry spell, will not do much. Potatoes are looking well, but less average than last year. "SAINT CROIX."
Calais.

WEST OXFORD. The hay crop will fall below the average about one-fourth, on account of dry weather, but the past week we have had nice, refreshing showers, and it has been very hot, which has made everything grow rapidly. Corn, grain, beans and potatoes, taken together, are ahead of any season for a long time, while fruit is looking well, and if nothing uncommon takes place, we shall have a good crop. June 29th lightning struck two telegraph poles and broke them in pieces. Some farmers began haying June 21th.
Denmark. C. B. SMITH.

WALDO. The weather since my last report has been very warm and dry, which has retarded the crops and injured many. A rain is now much needed, but the drought seems to promise a continuance. Hay will be only an average crop unless we have rains very soon. Low grounds are best, ridges light. Many have begun haying. The crops will be good in quality, if secured without damage by weather. Feed holds out well in pastures; cows have not fallen off much in the flow of milk. Corn promises to be an extra crop, and is looking very well. All vine fruits, such as pumpkin, squash and cucumber, promises well. Wheat is generally doing well. Oats very well, and potatoes are fair. The potato crop came up very poorly on some pieces, and is uneven. The bug is industriously at work, and so are the pickers. Paris green is not yet used to any extent, though it is freely talked of. The fruit crop promises well. Strawberries are extra in yield and quality. Stock is doing well at pasture. Trees are making a good growth of wood. Mr. Leonard Rowe presented me with several specimens of well kept Kilmahill apples, July 2d, which had a good, sprightly flavor—something remarkable for this variety. Wool dull of sale. J. W. LANG.
Brooks.

WALDO. Haying in progress; commenced in June; crop an average for ten years; weather catching. Drouth last half of June. Apples falling badly. Potatoes looking well; beetles plenty, but yield to hand picking. Corn promising; grain fair. Cultivated strawberries just in prime, 15 cts. per box per crate. Small fruits generally are an average crop. B.
Belfast.

WASHINGTON. Haying is commenced. The crop in new land very good, old fields very poor. The extreme dry weather during the first three weeks in June were very unfavorable for a crop, but during the past ten days we have had frequent and copious showers, and will have nearly if not quite an average crop. Potatoes look finely. The Colorado beetles by vigilant picking have become scarce, and a good crop is expected. Turnips and beets look well. Grain looks as well as it can; early sown fields are heading out. We hope to have as good a yield as usual. Apples promise an abundant yield; plums a failure; pasturage excellent. A. R. L.
Dennysville.

WASHINGTON. The past month has been extremely dry; the hay crop will be short—one-third what it was last year. Grain is looking very well, considering the drouth. We have had some showers of late that will help the crop out. Potatoes are looking very well, although a good many complain of the seed rotting. There were not so many planted this year, but a great deal more wheat was sown. M. L. WILDER.

YORK. The farmers in this vicinity have commenced haying in earnest, and grass is a week or ten days in advance of common seasons. The weather is fine and all that we could ask to guarantee good crops of most all kinds, corn especially; have not seen it look so well at this season of the year for over twenty years. The potato crop will depend somewhat upon our perseverance and skill in warfare, though Paris green seems to be the order of the day. We think the farmers of Maine have good reason to be hopeful. Good business horses are in demand and sell readily at a fair price. Our markets are also good for early beef and stock of all kinds. G. LOUGEE.
Parsonsfield.

YORK. A heavy crop of grass ready for the harvest, 50 per cent. better than last year. Potatoes good; bugs well subdued. Corn medium; not much planted. Oats and barley fair; too dry for gardening. Apples abundant and large; no worms. But a few pieces of sugar beets for the market; very good. Wheat, none sowed. Mrs. M., endorses Clarissa Potter and put a veto on any more home raised wheat in our family. If W. P. A., would like another convict, here is a chance to send a sample of home made bread. I have clung to wheat as a drowning man will grasp at a straw till now, and it dies out with me; in 50,000 population not a bushel sown. Bread, black or green, bitter and clammy always was. Cause ragweed and other foul seeds. Bad weather in wheat harvest and more than all bad milling, and so I prepared two acres for wheat and planted it to sugar beets with which to buy flour. J. MCINTIRE.
Biddeford.

For the Maine Farmer.

Correspondents' Notes and Queries.

An abstract of the Meteorological Observations taken at the Maine State College and the Mechanic Arts, for the month of June, 1880:

Lat. 44° 54' 2" N. Lon. 68° 40' 11" W.
Altitude above the sea, 129 feet.

Mean temperature,	61.28
Maximum "	88.2
Minimum "	41.4
Mean of warmest day, (28th.)	73.8
Mean of coldest day. (8th.)	55.1
Mean per centage of cloudiness,	.45
Am't of rain in gauge,	.73in.

Directions and force of winds:—N. W. & W., .21; S. W. & S., .31; S. E. & E., .27; N. E. & N. 18.

Mean height of barometer in inches,	29.818
Maximum " " "	30.133
Minimum, " " "	29.353
Mean force of vapor sufficient to sustain a column of mercury in height,	.439in.
Mean humidity of the atmosphere,	.72

GRASS FOR NAME. I herewith send you a spire of grass which I found in a piece of herds grass and clover, which I am unable to name. It grows four feet high in a sort of clump or bunch. Can you tell me through or by analysis what it is, whether it is pernicous or otherwise, and oblige a subscriber? S.
Guilford.

ANSWER. The specimen sent is a species of Bromus, called Chess and Cheat. It is a worthless pest and should be eradicated at once. A few years ago it was recommended to the farmers of New England as a valuable fodder plant, and small packages of seed were sold at great prices. But it proved to be as stated, and many farmers paid dearly for their knowledge.—ED.

TWO VALUABLE TURKEYS. Thos. Ressey of Bingham owns two turkeys that commenced laying April 26th and have laid every day since, both in one nest. May 21st, they commenced to set, one setting days, the other nights; and June 18th, the one that set nights hatched thirteen young; the other leaves the nest very cheerfully except going there to lay each day. These are profitable turkeys. Who can beat this?
Bingham. G. P.

The entomological specimen sent us by Mr. Charles C. Hamlen of Sidney, is the Hawk moth, so called from its swiftness of flight. This species is also sometimes called the Sphynx moth, not from any peculiarity of the moth itself, but because in its larva state it is thought to bear a resemblance to the well-known Sphynx of Egypt. These moths fly mostly by night, so that to watch their movements is not an easy matter. It feeds on various plants, among which the jessamine and potato are favorites. It also feeds on the deadly night shade, a plant very nearly allied to the potato.

The beautiful beetle handed us by Mr. Plummer, gnawed through a thick pasteboard box and escaped us before we had fully examined him. It was a fine specimen of a somewhat rare species of the numerous beetle family.

Sugar in the United States.

A chemist under the auspices of the Agricultural Department is authority for the statement that the Chinese sorghum

Maine Farmer.

Augusta, July 17, 1880.

TERMS OF THE MAINE FARMER.

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Collectors' Notices.

MR. J. P. CLARK will call upon our subscribers in Penobscot Co. during July and August.

MR. C. S. AYER, Agent for the FARMER, will call upon our subscribers in Cumberland county during July.

The Free Baptist Centennial.

One of the most interesting religious gatherings which will take place in New England this season is the Centennial Conference of the Free Baptists of the United States, which will be held at the Weirs, New Hampshire, commencing July 21, and continuing nine days.

The first Free Baptist Church was organized in New Durham, N. H., June 30, 1780. It consisted of seven members, four men and three women. Rev. Benjamin Randall, who organized this church, and in subsequent years other churches of a similar faith, was always up to the day of his death accepted as the founder of the denomination of which the churches he planted formed so large a part. He was born at Newcastle, near Portsmouth, N. H., Feb. 7, 1749, and he died at New Durham, Oct. 22, 1808. The persons who were organized into the first church were Baptists, who not finding the dogmas of high Calvinism taught in the Bible, could not accept or teach them, and thus at that time, finding themselves not in accord with the majority of the Baptist body a separation ensued. Their doctrinal views may be briefly stated. They positively rejected the idea of an elect few, predestined to eternal life with no provision for others; and they proclaimed free grace and free salvation as the offer of God to all, and free will on the part of man to accept these offers. Regeneration and endurance to the end were essential conditions of salvation, and both God and man had a work to do in securing that salvation. They were Baptists but never close communionists. They planted themselves squarely against the belief that men of education, without conversion, could be acceptable preachers, and some of their successors went to the other extreme, and gave education too low a place in ministerial qualifications. They put great emphasis on the life and spirit of the Christain profession, and always accorded to women as well as men, an active part in social worship.

Up to 1800, twenty years after the organization of the first church, no distinctive name had been given this denomination,—because they had assumed none themselves. Their records speak of them simply as Baptists. Their name came from their enemies, who called them derisively, "Freewillers, Randallites, &c.," and it was not the choice of Randall nor his companions in the ministry. At no time has the denominational growth been rapid. At the end of the first half century, 1830, the statistics show 450 churches, 375 ministers and 2100 members. In round numbers the denomination has now 1500 churches, 1500 ministers and 80,000 communicants. Churches are located in all the Northern States, and very few in many of the Southern States. It is computed that half a million people in the United States are under its special influence; and that three millions and a half in India are looking to it for a Christian civilization.

The two principal Colleges under the management and patronage of the denomination are Bates, in our State, and Hillsdale, in Michigan. With each of these there is connected a prosperous theological department. There are also fifteen or twenty seminaries and academies in nearly as many different States, most of which are in a thriving condition. Different societies have been organized—among which the Education Society, has done a most noble work in assisting young men in preparing for the ministry and in elevating the standard of education. Organized Foreign Mission and Home Mission work has been carried on for nearly fifty years. The ministry and churches have always engaged actively in the work of temperance from the commencement of this enterprise and they were without exception stalwarts in the anti-slavery conflict during all the years of its fierce agitation.

Fifty-five years ago the first number of the *Morning Star* was published. Now a large weekly paper of eight pages, the popular organ of the denomination. The Sunday School papers and a large number and variety of books are also published by the printing establishment, located at Dover, N. H. Taking all things into consideration the denomination was never so strong or efficient as now. The general conference formed in 1827, meets once in three years. This body properly voices the faith and practice of the denomination. Its sessions continue from a week to ten days. Its next session coming as it does in connection with the Centennial celebration, promises to be of unusual interest. The place selected for the conference is on the western shore of Lake Winnepasaukie, called the Weirs. Last year the Methodist, Unitarians, temperance league and veterans, all held meetings on the ground. The auditorium will seat several thousand persons. A summer building has been erected with accommodations for 1500 persons, in which the business sessions of the conference will be held. The arrangements for the Centennial observances have been completed and make a programme of rare interest. The Anniversay Sermon will be given by Rev. Dr. Durgin of Hillsdale College, and the Conference Sermon by Rev. B. F. Hayes, D. D., of Bates College. The days of the session will be devoted to a great number of religious, educational and moral subjects. Delegates are expected from many parts of the world, and a large number of distinguished ministers and laymen of the denomination will be present.

The closing exercises will include a visit to the grave of Rev. Benjamin Randall, the founder of the denomination at New Durham, where appropriate services will be held on that historic ground by Prof. Dunn, D. D., of Hillsdale College, and Prof. Fullonton of Bates College. Excursion tickets to the conference can be purchased at the New England roads at rates less than daily fare; and during the meetings excursion tickets at very low rates will be for sale at the Weirs, for trips to all important summer resorts in New England and the Canadas.

THE NEW YORK horse railroad companies feed their horses, on an average, eight pounds of hay and thirteen pounds of grain per day, each. In summer, the grain is a mixture of corn and oats in equal parts by measure. In winter, the grain is nearly all corn. These horses work hard and regularly are fed with a view to giving them the best food in the best proportions to fit them for their work. As will be seen, each horse eats about 3,000 pounds of hay, or one and one-half tons, and 4,745 pounds of grain per year. Reckoning the hay at $15 per ton and the grain at $1.25 per hundred pounds, and the annual cost of his feed is about $82 per year. The hay is cut in lengths of about two inches, and the grain is all ground so as to make it into a coarse meal.

City News.

Last Thursday evening our citizens were intensely excited over the announcement that a young lady had been shot on the "new road" to Hallowell. Miss Lyda Linn, a young lady formerly of Windsor, now employed in the dressmaking establishment of Mrs. M. A. Chandler, started for Hallowell at half past five, alone, in a team belonging to Mr. Rufus Vivian, to take tea with a friend. While in the rear of the State House, she was met by a young man, was asked for a ride and she consented to give him one. When the team entered the gully, a spot secluded, the boy suddenly said "Stop the horse and get out of the carriage; don't make any resistance." He then attempted to draw Miss Linn from the carriage and upon her resisting he stepped out of the carriage and pulled out a revolver and again repeated his demand, and placing the revolver near Miss Linn's head fired. The bullet entered the face and has not yet been removed. Dr. Bolan, who attended Miss Linn, states that the wound is not dangerous. A large crowd of citizens at once started in pursuit of the villain who had committed this great outrage and by eight o'clock through the efforts of City Marshal White, aided by Messrs. J. L. and Jackson M. Libby, Charles E. Stevens of Hallowell, was arrested. He was at once taken before Miss Linn who identified him. On Saturday he was arraigned before Trial Justice E. W. Whitehouse, charged with assault with intent to kill. He waived examination and was held in $1500 for his appearance at the September Term of the Court. Stevens is 17 years old and has served a term of 3 years in the Reform School. There seems to be no question of his guilt; we trust he may have a speedy trial and if pronounced guilty that he may receive the severest punishment known to the law.——The drowning season is upon us. On Saturday Ralph Reeves, a little boy nine years old was drowned in the river, opposite the Arsenal, while in bathing with other boys. His body was recovered.——Saturday was the hottest day of the season; thermometers ranged from 92 to 103 in the shade.——One year ago last Saturday the Rev. Mr. Curtis was drowned in Moosehead Lake. Memorial services were held Sunday in the Unitarian church to his memory.——A large number of our citizens are now sojourning at the several watering places along the coast of our State. ——Dr. Wm. B. Lapham, will attend the decennial celebration of the settlement of New Sweden and our readers will have from him an interesting account of this people and the Aroostook country.——Mrs. Parke, a daughter of the late Luther Severance, a native of this city, now a resident of Honolulu, Sandwich Islands, is spending a few days with her old friends in Augusta. Mrs. Parke's husband is, and has been for many years Marshal of the Islands.——Abner Plumer the farmer of the "Sprague Farm" Cushnoc heights, in attempting to descend from a scaffold in the barn on Saturday, fell quite a distance and received serious injuries.——The infant son of Mr. J. W. Harlow, died on the Steamer Morrison, Saturday, *en route* to Ocean Point. The child had been sick some time and was being carried to the sea-side by the advice of the family physician.——Mr. E. C. Allen's new building has reached its fifth story. It is a great addition to Water street.——Work on the Cony Free High School is progressing. The foundation, underpining and basement walls are nearly completed.——News was received in this city Wednesday morning, announcing the sad intelligence of the death of an infant child of Mr. Wm. S. Badger, Jr., at his residence in Kansas.——Mr. Joseph E. Badger has been appointed Commissioner of Deeds for South Carolina.

Our Foreign Trade.

Following the resumption of specie payments we had throughout the country a business boom which for a time was carried along on the waves of speculation, and it threatened to get the balance on the wrong side of the national ledger, but the boom did not last and the check it received, because of its speculative character, reduced our imports and largely increased our exports. The excess of exports of merchandise for twelve months ending May 31, in the last two years, was as follows: 1880, $162,183,693; 1879, $269,685,646. In the same time we have gained largely in specie. The figures for twelve months were as follows: 1880, excess of imports, $74,251,242; 1879, excess of exports, $5,385,324. This shows a gain in two years of about $69,000,000. To this is to be added the product of our own mines, aggregating in two years $200,000,000 in round numbers.

The Cincinnati *Gazette* in speaking on this subject says:

"We are now approaching another harvest. Wheat has been substantially secured, and proves to be an enormous crop. The yield of other small grains is also large. The corn crop is not made, but the prospects are good for a large crop. The crop of hay and potatoes will also be large, and we shall have an abundant yield of fruit. And as our agricultural interests underlie all others, another year of general prosperity is assured. Europe will again need our surplus products at good prices, and we shall continue to add to our stock of specie, while keeping the general balance of trade in our favor.

In moving the crops the great railroads of the country will be taxed to their utmost, and the stockholders of all well managed railways will be richly rewarded, while the competition will prove sufficient to prevent extortionate charges.

The experience of last winter will, no doubt, put people on their guard against undue inflation of prices upon a purely speculative basis, but that next fall's business will be healthy and prosperous there can be no doubt. It is entirely within bounds to say that the United States was never in a more prosperous condition than it is now."

SOLDIERS' HOME. The new board of managers for homes for the disabled soldiers met in the Revere House Boston, last week. There was present Chief Justice Wait, Colonel Harris of Ohio; General Coulter of Pennsylvania; General Love of Indiana; Colonel Martin of Kansas; General Franklin of Connecticut; General Roberts of Maine; Major Fulton of Wisconsin, and General McMahon of New York. The following were elected permanent officers: President, Gen. William B. Franklin of Connecticut; Vice President, Col. Leonard A. Harris of Ohio; Second Vice President, Gen. Richard Coulter of Pennsylvania; Secretary, Gen. Martin McMahon of New York.. By a resolution of the board Gen. Franklin was appointed acting treasurer.

Friday the Board visited Togus, and the day was devoted to routine business. On Saturday the inmates of the Home were presented by Gen. Butler, to the new managers and addresses were delivered to the men by Gen. Franklin and other members of the board. The managers made a thorough inspection of the books of the Home for the past year, and also made examination of the grounds and buildings. They expressed themselves as highly pleased with the management of the institution.

NEW ORLEANS MINSTRELS. This favorite and popular troupe appear this evening at Granite Hall. A good entertainment is a public benefit, for it amuses, entertains and instructs the people. This is an old troupe and its members are well known to the public, and we only voice the universal expression when we say it is the best show of the kind travelling. Its street parade is unequalled; and the members of the troupe possess a high order of musical talent. Mr. L. P. Benjamin is one of the best cornet players that travels. Mrs. Nellie Gorton possesses a baritone voice of unusual power and the Clipper Quartette is always delightful. Mr. George H. Lennox, the Press Agent of this excellent troupe informed us that the Company was meeting with unusul success this season. We trust Granite Hall will be crowded this evening.

The Census.

From the returns received we feel confident that the census returns will show the population of Maine, to have been on the first day of June last, six hundred and fifty thousand. Ten years ago it was six hundred and twenty-six thousand, six hundred and ninety-five. The young men of the State are constantly leaving for the large cities and the growing West, allured by the stories of large and sudden wealth which they imagine can be possessed by the mere going to the land where it is supposed to lie hidden waiting for the eastern comer, find that the traditions of western treasure are mere idle, vague, dreamy fancies. If the young men of Maine would only learn the great truism that wealth is simply accumulated toil, either mental or physical, they would remain in this good State with its diversified interests and resources, and the tide of emigration would be to, rather than from Maine. The same energy, industry and patience will produce in Maine as large a reward as in any portion of the globe.

The gain in Androscoggin and Aroostook Counties will be quite large and comprises the greater portion of the gain in the State. In Kennebec County, but for the gain in the two manufacturing points, Augusta and Waterville, the loss would be serious. We publish the returns so far as received, giving the census of 1870 as well, in order that comparisons may be made showing where the losses and gains occur.

KENNEBEC COUNTY.

	1870.	1880.
Albion,	1,356	1,197
Augusta,	7,815	8,682
Belgrade,	1,485	1,311
Benton,	1,180	1,179
Chelsea,	1,239	1,538
China,	2,120	1,743
Clinton,	1,767	1,663
Farmingdale,	859	784
Fayette,	900	765
Gardiner,	4,496	4,485
Hallowell,	3,008	3,160
Litchfield,	1,506	1,311
Manchester,	732	623
Monmouth,	1,744	1,519
Mt. Vernon,	1,252	1,108
Pittston,	2,353	2,450
Readfield,	1,457	1,238
Rome,	725	604
Sidney,	1,472	1,395
Vassalborough,	2,923	2,620
Vienna,	740	626
Waterville,	4,859	4,675
West Waterville,		1,697
Wayne,	938	950
West Gardiner,	1,043	977
Windsor,	1,266	1,007
Winslow,	1,437	1,467
Winthrop,	2,229	2,145
Clinton Gore,	257	
Unity Plantation,	68*	
Total,	53,225	52,919
Add the population in Clinton Gore set off on to Waldo Co., during the past decade,		257
we find Kennebec County has practically held its own,		53,176

* Included in 1880 in Benton.

The gain has been in Augusta 867, Chelsea 299, Hallowell 152, Pittston 108, Waterville, 1,513, Wayne 12, Winslow 30. Total, 2,981. Losses. Albion 159, Belgrade 174, Benton, including Unity Plantation, 69, China 377, Clinton 104, Farmingdale 75, Fayette, 135, Gardiner 11, Litchfield 195, Manchester 109, Monmouth 225, Mt. Vernon 144, Readfield 219, Rome 121, Sidney 77, Vassalborough 303, Vienna 114, West Gardiner 66, Windsor 259, Winthrop 84. Total, 3,030. Net loss, 49. The largest gain was in Waterville. The greatest loss, China. The largest relative gain was in Chelsea and the greatest loss relatively was in Rome.

ANDROSCOGGIN COUNTY.

The census of Androscoggin County is complete with the exception of the town of Minot and one district in Auburn. The following shows the population of the several towns compared with the population in 1870:

	1870.	1880.
Auburn,	6,169	9,530
Durham,	1,350	1,258
East Livermore,	1,004	1,071
Greene,	1,094	983
Leeds,	1,288	1,292
Lewiston,	13,600	19,082
Lisbon,	2,014	2,640
Livermore,	1,467	1,263
Minot, (est.) 1880,	1,569	1,600
Poland,	2,436	2,493
Turner,	2,380	2,276
Wales,	556	503
Webster,	939	971
Total,	35,866	44,967
Gain,		9,101

PISCATAQUIS COUNTY.

	1870.	1880.
Abbot,	712	695
Atkinson,	810	845
Blanchard,	165	186
Brownville, etc.,	860	903
Dover,	1,983	1,690
Foxcroft,	1,168	1,269
Guilford,	818	847
Greenville, etc.	369	745
Howard, etc.,	606	749
Kingsbury & Wellington,	857	804
Medford,	294	411
Monson,	604	813
Milo,	938	972
Orneville,	575	490
Parkman,	1,105	1,006
Sangerville,	1,140	1,088
Sebec, Bowerbank and Barnard,	1,184	1,116
Shirley,	206	226
Total,	14,397	14,855
Gain,		458

MR. GEORGE B. MASON, son of the late Thaddeus Mason of Boston, died in that city last Wednesday, after a short illness of typhoid fever. His remains were brought to this city and he was buried from the residence of his aunt, Mrs. Sylvanus Caldwell. The funeral services were very impressive; the floral offerings from schoolmates and friends in Boston and this city were numerous and beautiful, and were touching tributes to the worth and purity of the young life that had so suddenly gone out. There are many peculiarities of sadness about this death. Young Mason was an only child, his life had never been shadowed by acts which might bring regret, but he had grown up to fill a mother's heart with pride and joy and he stood as a son and in the place of a husband to her who was bound up in him. He had reached manhood, had formed an unexceptionable character, was taking a business stand and would have occupied an honorable position in society, but with only a short notice he joined the silent majority.

Death can never come without bringing sadness to some hearts; but when the earth closes over a young life that is full of hope and promise, one that seems by every consideration, needed, there is peculiar and hidden grief, which the community shares with those who are called upon to surrender all that seems to give pleasure or add comfort to this life.

BENJAMIN WIGGIN. The Hon. Benjamin Wiggin, died at his residence in the Dorchester District Boston, Mass., Friday afternoon, aged sixty-eight years. He was born at Old Brighton, (now Newton,) Mass., March 23, 1812. He was graduated at Union College, N. Y.; read law with the late Hon. William D. Williamson, and at Cambridge law school under Judge Story and Professor Ackman, and was admitted to the bar at Bangor, in 1834. He continued to reside at Bangor until 1862, when he removed to Dorchester. He was for many years in this State an active politician, and held many positions of trust and honor. In 1839 he was appointed by Governor Fairfield, to examine and report on the English encroachments on and about the then disputed boundary. In 1844 he was United States Collector of the Belfast and Bangor district. He was Executive Councilor during 1849, and was re-elected in 1850. In 1856 he was a member of the Cincinnati Convention. He was Commissioner of the United States under the reciprocity treaty with Great Britain in 1859, and special agent of the United States Treasury in 1859 and 1860. He leaves a wife and daughter.

Political Notes.

The Washington County Democratic Convention made the following nominations:—Senators, James R. Talbot, John T. Wallace, Jr.; Clerk of Courts, Frank McGraw; Judge of Probate, Charles Cary; Register of Probate, Arthur N. Wiley; Sheriff, George E. Burrill; Treasurer, Joseph Wilder, Jr.

The Democrats of Biddeford and Saco joined one evening last week in opening the campaign, raising one flag in Saco and two in Biddeford. There was music, speaking by citizens of the two places and fireworks, a large audience being in attendance.

A Hancock and Plaisted ratification meeting was held in Norombega Hall, at Bangor, last week, to open the Democratic campaign,. W. H. McCrillis presided, and made brief opening remarks. The meeting was addressed by Stephen Jennings, Esq., and Hon. Abraham Sanborn of Bangor. St. John's Band furnished music.

Last week a Hancock and English flag was raised in Portland. The flag was run out at 8 o'clock and a national salute was fired. The Hon. George Walker presided and spoke. Hon Nathan Cleaves, A. F. Moulton, Esq., and Hon. S. C. Andrews followed in speeches on the general subject of the military career of Gen Hancock.

Judge Black denies that he had anything to do with Gen Hancock's letter or orders concerning Louisiana.

Hon. Alexander E. Furgerson, one of the ablest of the Democratic leaders in Cincinnati, has announced his intention to support Garfield and Arthur.

A number of members of the Union League Club, New York City, have tendered to general Arthur a dinner at the house of the club. General Arthur will be unable to accept for various reasons.

Following the Republican County Convention in York County there will be held a great Republican Mass Meeting at Alfred, on the afternoon of the 5th of August, which will open the campaign in York County. Among the distinguished orators invited are Hon. T. B. Reed, M. C., Senator Hamlen, Hon. Eugene Hale, Hon. Lewis Barker, and Gov. Davis. The intention is to make this the largest Mass Meeting ever held in York County.

Col. John W. Forney of Philadelphia, heretofore a prominent Republican, and Gen. A. L. Pierson of Pittsburg, Pa., a Republican of local reputation, announce their intention to support Hancock.

At the last Cabinet meeting, Secretary Schurz announced that he should take an active part in the campaign. He will speak at Indianapolis on the 19th.

On Wednesday evening, the Republicans of Presque Isle opened the campaign, with a flag raising and a large open-air meeting. Capt. Boutelle of Bangor S. W. Matthews of Caribou, Dan'l Stickney Esq., of Presque Isle and L. R. King, Esq., addressed the meeting.

Hon. Marshall Jewell, Chairman, accompained by Hon. Stephen W. Dosey, Secretary of the Republican National Committee, left New York Saturday evening for Mentor, Ohio, to consult with Gen. Garfield on the approaching campaign.

Gen. Butler was at the Soldiers' Home. Togus, Saturday, and General Plaisted the Democratic and Greenback candidate for Governor, Hon. Simon S. Brown, and others called upon him. General Butler agreed to take an active part in the Maine canvass, making a few speeches at important points. He will speak at Bangor, Augusta, Lewiston, Portland and other places.

Colonel R. W. Thompson, Secretary of the navy, delivered a campaign speech at Terre Haute, Indiana, last Saturday night two hours long. He said the right of every citizen to vote would be maintained at the coming election, if necessary, by all the power of the government, supported, if need be, by the army and navy. He said the President would be equal to any emergency in the protection of citizens, high or low, rich or poor.

Hon. William H. English, Democratic nominee for Vice-President, arrived in New York Sunday night, and is stopping at the Fifth Avenue Hotel. He dined with Gen. Hancock on Governor's Island at 7 o'clock Monday evening, and spent the night at Gen. Hancock's house on the Island.

Gen. Jas. B. Weaver, the Greenback candidate for President, spent Sunday in Chattanooga, Tenn. He was *en route* to Scottsboro, Ala., where he spoke Monday, inaugurating the canvass in that State. He was interviewed by a *Times* reporter and spoke very candidly of the coming campaign. He is confident of his ability to carry Alabama, Tennessee, Texas, Mississippi, West Virginia, Missouri and Arkansas, and says he will make heavy gains in Maryland, Iowa, Michigan and Minnesota. He says if he does not receive the majority of the electoral votes, neither of the other candidates will, and the matter will again go to the House of Representatives. If thrown into the House he will stand an equal chance with the rest. De La Matyr, he claims, has the balance of power there, and no concessions will there be made by his partisans favorable either to the Democrats or Republicans. If no agreement is reached, the matter will become a constitutional question, and the Senate will decide what disposition will be made of it. He says he will confine himself to no section, but will stump every State he can before the election. Kearney, he says, will lend him all his support, and will give him California beyond doubt.

A Hancock and English club was organized Saturday evening at Thomaston, with Joseph E. Moore as president. It was voted to support Hancock and English, and only regular democratic nominess.

The Republicans of Hallowell formed last week a Garfield and Arthur Club, electing the following officers. President, D. K. Jewell; Vice President, A. W. Burr; Secretary, C. F. Warner; Treasurer, J. H. Lowell; Executive Committee, A. M. Spear, E. C. Stevens, Orrin S. Winter, W. C. Chase; Finance Committee, J. R. Bodwell, B. F. Warner; Marshal, C. W. Tilden; Enrolling Committee, Benj. J. Richards, H. L. Grindell, Jas. Atkins, Jr., J. E. Brann, Albert Winter, John D. Bailey.

Gen. Garfield on Monday forwarded to Senator Hoar his official letter accepting the nomination tended him by the Republican National Convention. Gen Garfield cordially endorses the platform of his party and says on all subjects of which it treats his opinions are on record among the published proceedings of Congress. He says "while the Republicans fully recognize and will strenuously defend all rights attained by the people and all rights reserved to the States, they reject the pernicious doctrine of State supremacy, which so long crippled the functions of the National government and at one time brought the Union very near to destruction. They insist that the United States is a Nation, with ample power of self-preservation. That its constitution and laws made in pursuance thereof, are the supreme law of the land. That the right of the Nation to determine the method by which its own legislation shall be created cannot be surrendered without abdicating one of the fundamental powers of the government. That the National laws relating to election of Representatives in Congress shall neither be violated nor evaded. That every elector shall be permitted freely and without intimidation to cast his lawful ballot at such election and have it honestly counted, and that the potency of his vote shall not be destroyed by the fraudulent vote of any other person. * * * But it is certain that the wounds of war cannot be completely healed, and the spirit of brotherhood cannot fully pervade the whole country till every citizen, rich or poor, white or black, is secure in the free and equal enjoyment of every civil and political right guaranteed by the Constitution and laws."

In referring to matters of National finance he says: "Resumption of specie payments, which the Republican party so courageously and successfully accomplished, has removed from the field of controversy many questions that long and seriously disturbed the credit of the government and the business of the country. Our paper currency is now as national as the flag, and resumption has not only made it everywhere equal to coin, but has brought into use our share of gold and silver. The circulating medium is more abundant than ever before, and we need only maintain the equality of all our dollars to insure to labor and capital a measure of value from the use of which no one can suffer loss. The great prosperity which the country is now enjoying should not be endangered by any violent changes or doubtful financial experiments."

He favors a tariff that will bring revenue to our treasury and such as will "permit the labor and capital employed in our great industries to compete fairly in our own markets with the labor and capital of foreign producers." He is in favor of appropriations for the improvement of our harbors and great navigable rivers, provided the expenditures for that purpose are strictly limited to works of national importance. He expresses a belief that we cannot consent to the Chinese emigration because we cannot consent to allow any form of service labor to be introduced among us, and believes a modification of our existing treaty with China should be made and says "If the negotiations now pending fail, it will be the duty of Congress to migitate the evils already felt and prevent their increase by such restrictions as without violence or injustice will place upon a sure foundation the peace of our communities and the freedom and dignity of labor." He concludes by saying, "If elected it will be my purpose to enforce strict obedience to the constitution and laws to promote as best I may the interests and honor of the whole country, relying for support upon the wisdom of Congress, the intelligence and patriotism of the people and the favor of God."

Senator Blaine will arrive home from the White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia, this week. His friends tendered him an ovation upon his arrival, but the Senator—while not insensible to the honor which his friends designed to pay him—preferred there should be no demonstration upon his return.

Messrs. Daniel L. Allen & Co., announce that they will publish the *Honest Truth* during the campaign. There will be six issues of the paper. The first number will be issued Wednesday, July 28th. It will be furnished at fifteen cents a copy, and at less rates if taken by clubs.

On Tuesday, the Committee appointed by the National Democratic Convention, consisting of one member from each State, called upon Gen. W. S. Hancock and Hon. Wm. H. English at the residence of Gen. Hancock, Governor's Island, and officially notified them of their nomination. Owing to the death of a grandson of Gen. Hancock, the notification of the Committee and the replys were merely formal. Gen. Hancock will shortly accept the nomination by letter.

Bowdoin College.

At the alumni meeting Commencement week it was voted to convey to the college the association's interest in Memorial hall. A committee was appointed to arrange for the publication of the history of the college begun by Professor Cleveland and completed by Professor Packard. Mr. Chandler was selected to deliver the oration next year.

Commencement day opened bright and fair, with as large an attendance as is usual, The prayer meeting was largely attended in the morning, and after the boards had transacted their business a procession was formed headed by Chandler's band, and marched to the First Parish church where the graduating exercises took place.

The meetings of the board transacted mostly routine business, very few important measures being before them for consideration. A committee was appointed to procure plans with reference to enlarging Adams Hall. It was voted to establish a chair in the Latin language and literature, and a chair in elocution and oratory, as soon as the funds of the college were in a condition to permit.

The degree of Doctor of Divinity was conferred on Cyrus Hamlin and L. A. Barstow; and Master of Arts on M. T. Ludden of Lewiston, and Weston Thompson of Brunswick.

The salaries for the ensuing year were fixed as follows: President, $2,600; Treasurer, $1700; Carpenter, $800; Professors Packard, Carmichael, Smith, Avery and Vose, $1700; Professor Robinson, $1200: Instructors, Lee, Cõle and Johnson, $1000; Assistant in elocution, $1000; Instructors in German, $400; Instructors in Gymnasium, $400; Assistants in library, $200.

The Maine Historical Society held its annual meeting in the north wing of the chapel, President, Hon. J. W. Bradbury, presided. Hon. Marshall Cram, Treasurer, submitted his report. The receipts for the year were $4796.94 and the expenditures were $4738.84. The list of securities shows $12,921.03 on hand. Prof. Packard presented a report as Librarian; 194 volumes had been added and 296 pamphlets; by exchange, 6 volumes; 157 volumes have been given.

Officers elected for the ensuing year: President J. W. Bradbury; Vice President, W. G. Barrows; Secretary and Librarian, A. S. Packard; Corresponding Secretary, Wm. Goold; Treasurer, Marshall Cram; Auditors, W. G. Barrows and S. J. Young; Standing Committee, W. G. Barrows, Israel Washburn, R. K. Sewell, S. F. Dike, Wm. Goold, S. J. Young and Dr. W. B. Lapham. Rev. H. Thayer was elected to membership in the place of E. Wilder Farley, deceased and G. B. Barrows of Fryeburg, in place of Rev. C. W. Hayes removed from the State.

Corresponding Members: Major Hugunet Latour, Montreal; Francis B. Hayes, Boston; G. V. Fox, Lowell; Rev. E. C. S. Waldron, Pikeskill, Md. Honorary Members: Hon. W. P. Frye, Lewiston; Rev. Geo. W. Field, D. D., Bangor; Dr. H. H. Hill, Augusta, and Hon. Daniel F. Davis of East Corinth. Committee on Field Day: R. K. Sewall, Wiscasset; Hon. Wm. Goold, Windham; G. Tenney, Brunswick; S. D. Bailey, Bath; Gen. J. M. Brown, Portland. It was voted to pay $150 as compensation to the Secretary and Librarian.

POSTAGE STAMPS. An official statement compiled at the Post-office department shows that the issues of postage stamps, stamped envelopes and postal cards during the fiscal year, which ended June 30, foot up an aggregate of $31,932,579, being an increase of nearly $3,500,000 over the total for the preceding fiscal year, or 12 2-10 per cent. This percentage is about double the average rate of increase during the previous five years.

The greatest proportional increase is in the item of postal cards, the issues of which amounted to $2,753,470 during the the last fiscal year as against $2,217,970 for the year ending June 30, 1879, an increase of 24 per cent.

The largest actual gain to the postal revenue was in the issues of ordinary postage stamps, which during the last fiscal year aggregated $22,414,928, being an increase of $2,297,669 or 11 4-10 per cent. over the preceding year. The issues of newspaper and periodical stamps increased 15 1-10 per cent. the totals being $1,088,412 for the fiscal year of 1879 and $1,252,903 for the fiscal year of 1880.

UNITED STATES PRISONERS. There are now about 1,900 prisoners of the United States confined in the various prisons of the country. The prisons at Albany and Detroit have something more than 300 each, and the one at Allegheny has 200. Latterly the expense of maintaining prisoners has been greatly reduced, and it soon promises to disappear entirely.

The Albany and Detroit prisons make no charge for maintenance, finding it profitable to secure the labor of the prisoners in return for board and clothing, the cost of which is estimated at about 13 cents a day. The authorities of the Auburn prison are applicants for Government prisoners on equally favorable terms. Baltimore also wants some of them, but wants 18 cents a day for keeping them. Every prisoner is visited periodically by an agent of the Attorney-General, and taken into a private room alone, where he has an opportunity to make any complaint he wishes with regard to his treatment.

THE AMERICAN BOOK EXCHANGE. We have frequently called the attention of our readers to the literary revolution, brought about by the American Book Exchange. This week we desire to call attention to the advertisement of this company in the FARMER. We have received many of the books mentioned and can assure our readers that they are just as represented. Although the exchange uses type setting machines to set and distribute the type, to the uninitiated, it does not seem possible for them to print the works they do, on good paper, well bound at such rates as they advertise. The secret lies in the immense sales they make, the sales of some of the books, reaching several hundred thousand copies. It is almost cheaper now to buy books than to go without them. They publish only standard works and at prices within the reach of all. The projectors and proprietors of this house deserve to rank among the public benefactors of the age.

Editor's Table.

Wide Awake for July is full of special attractions for the month, chief among which shines out a brilliantly illustrated and graphic paper by Mrs. Mary Wager-Fisher, entitled "The Philadelphia Newsboys and their Annual Fourth of July Dinner," describing the annual festival given by Mr. George W. Child, on Independence Day. Laura Ledyard's "Hippety Ho," "Jonathan's Fourth of July," by Elizabeth Cumings, will suit the little boys, and "Some Bad Boys of Bybury," will serve the same purpose for their big brothers. There is also a capital "Fourth" Marching Song, with music, by Louis C. Elson. Only 20 cents a number; $2.00 a year. Ella Farman, Editor. D. Lothrop & Co., Publishers, Boston, Mass.

Ellen W. Olney, contributes the leading story in Good Company, Number Ten. Two others are entitled "Penance Extraordinary" and "Interpositions of Providence." Under the guise of a fish story Mrs. L. W. Champney happily hits off in her usual vivacious style various theological isms. Another contribution tells of "isms" in a place which was once badly given to them, Seneca Falls, including the origin of the Bloomer costume. It seems that Mrs. Bloomer was not the first to wear it, though it took its name from her. Published at Springfield, Mass. Terms $3.00 per annum.

The Art Amateur for July has several new and beautiful designs for etching on linen; a fine picture of "Pauline Bonaparte," by Canova, one of "Spring," by Benedict Wasson, "The Green Night," by E. Dardoize, having its many interesting articles on "Hints to China Painters" "A Beautiful Town Home," besides many articles on Art, Needlework, Industrial Art, Decoration and furniture and ceramices. This magazine is edited with marked ability and it takes high rank.

St. Nicholas for July, has a patriotic flavor appropriate to the season; and, in an article written and thoroughly illustrated by Mr. Daniel Beard, it tells the boys and girls how to celebrate the Fourth of July with "Paper Balloons"—how to make them, and how to send them up with safety both balloons and senders. The frontispiece illustrates a stirring incident in the Revolutionary War—young "Elizabeth Zane Saving a Fort" garrisoned by a few patriots against five hundred Indians under a Tory leader. There is a picture, by J. E. Kelly, of the heroic deed of a young dragoon—one of Phil Kearney's famous Twenty—in the Mexican war. The two stories are narrated briefly. The career of the brave and noble Montgomery—one of the general of the Revolution—is told by George J. Varney, who writes of him and "The Canadian Patriots of 1775." Mary Wager Fisher's story of "Tom's Anti-Fire-cracker League" suggested a pleasant way for live boys and girls to celebrate the "glorious Fourth" appropriately, without fire-crackers. A white silhouette picture, by L. Hopkins, shows how modern young America would like to pay compliments to Liberty.

Kennebec County Items.

The date of the reunion of the Third Maine Regiment at Augusta, has been changed from September 8th to Sept. 15th.——Recently the dwelling house of Elias Bowman, situated in the southern part of Waterville, was struck by lightning and damaged badly, but was not set on fire.——There is a good deal of activity in the ice trade on the Kennebec and other places in the State, and prices are approaching a fancy basis. At Gardiner, extensive sales were made a month or two ago from $2 to $2.50 per ton, dealers are refusing $3.75, and holding for $5 later in the season. The supply is fast going into the hands of the large dealers and speculators, and the cities of the Atlantic coast may soon look for another advance in their ice bills. The figures show that there were 800,000 tons secured on the Kennebec last winter, which at $2.50 per ton will produce $2,000,000. This is more ice by 100,000 tons than was ever secured on the river before, and the total crop of the State is estimated at 1,500,000 tons.——The indications are that the attendance at the approaching Commencement of Colby will be unusually large. Among those expected are Martin Anderson, LL. D., President of Rochester University, a graduate of Waterville College, class of '40; Rev. Alfred Owen, President of Dennison University, of Granville, Ohio, class of '53; and Wm. Mathews, LL. D., class of '35, who is to be the Commencement Orator.——Mr. Augustine Crosby, through whose enterprise the citizens of Benton owe much for initiating and helping to carry forward the large manufacturing industry of that place, disposed of his interest in the Fibre Co. some time ago; and having sold his improved dredging machine, at a good price, has gone to Frazer River, in the employment of a reliable company, and with good pay, to superintend its operation.——Mr. Shurtleff of Winslow, Mr. Hinds of Benton, and Mr. Wm. Balentine of Waterville, have each raised a large number of strawberries for the Waterville market. Prices have varied between 15 and 25 cts, the best generally selling at the latter price.——It will be a matter of surprise to many to know the amount of business Mr. Penny, the South Gardiner station agent is subject to do any month. For the month ending June 30th, the ticket sales amounted to $310.55; freight, $411.20: telegraphing, $112.26; express, $40.50, making a total of $874.51. ——The Assessors of Hallowell have transferred to the City Treasurer, Mr. John Graves, a complete list of taxes for the year 1880. The valuation is as follows: resident real estate, $959,000; resident personal estate, $454,567; non-resident real estate, $41,920; non-resident personal estate, $28,900; total valuation, $1,484,387.

The Markets.

Brighton Cattle Market.

BOSTON, WEDNESDAY, July 14.

Amount of stock at market 5389; Sheep and Lambs 7628; Swine 9630; number Western Cattle 3206; Eastern Cattle 43; Milch Cows and Northern Cattle 140.

Prices of Beef Cattle per 100 lbs. live weight—Extra quality $5 25@5 50; first quality $4 87½@5 12½; second quality $4 37½@4 75; third quality $3 75@4 25; poorest grades of coarse Oxen, Bulls, &c., $3 25@3 75.

Brighton Hides 8@8½c per lb; Brighton Tallow 5@5c per lb; Country Hides 7½@8c per lb; Country Tallow 3½@4c per lb. Calf Skins 12½@13c per lb; Sheared Sheep Skins 40@40c each. Wool Skins $2 00@3 00 each.

SALES OF CATTLE.

By	No.	Price.		Live weight.	Average weight.
A. N. Monroe	17	$5 50	"		1542
do	36	5 25	"		1461
do	14	5 12½	"		1327
do	30	5 20	"		1487
do	92	5 00	"		1276
do	44	5 15	"		1532
do	32	5 05	"		1185
do	54	4 75	"		1087
do	27	4 34	"		1040
do	17	5 50	"		1000
C Leavitt & Son	12	5 15	"		1180
do	4	4 75	"		1050
do	9	4 90	"		1254
do	6	5 00	"		1150
J B Cook & Co	32	5 15	"		1100
do	37	4 70	"		1250
do	19	4 20	"		1000
do	15	5 00	"		1275
Fitch & Eames	30	4 75	"		1050
do	86	5 12½	"		1240
do	21	5 10	"		1250
do	8	5 15	"		1250
J. Stetson	20	4 95	"		1050
do	13	4 90	"		1025
do	11	5 00	"		1295
E. Farrell	30	4 90	"		1150

There has been a fair demand for Beef Cattle this week, and prices upon Cattle for the butchers' trade advanced ½c per lb over those obtained one week ago for the same grades of Beeves. The trade for extra Cattle has been good, and quite a large number were bought up for shipment to England at prices ranging from 5¼@5½c per lb live weight. From Maine there was a light supply of Milch Cows and a few Beef Cattle. The trade at present is confined mostly to Beef Cattle, there being but a few Northern or Eastern Store Cattle offered in the markets for sale.

Working Oxen—A few pairs each week is all the markets require at this season of the year. As soon as Cattle commence coming in more freely from Maine the Working Ox trade will revive.

Milch Cows—The supply in market was light, and most of those offered for sale were of a common grade. We quote sales of 2 Milch Cows at $45 each; 2 Cows and Calves at $70 the lot; 1 at $40; 2 at $41 each; 2 at 35 each; 1 at 36.

Sheep and Lambs—Those from the West were owned by butchers and cost from 5 @5¾c per lb for Sheep; Lambs 6½@7c per lb. There are seldom any Western Sheep offered on the market for sale.

Store Cattle—None in Market and not much call for them.

Swine—Prices for fat hogs this week 5¼@5¼c, live weight.

Watertown Cattle Market.

TUESDAY, July 13.

BEEF CATTLE—Receipts 1377 head; sales of choice at $7 00@7 00; extra $6 25@6 75; first quality at $5 50@6 00; second quality at $5 00@5 25; third quality $4 00@4 75; Store Cattle, Working Oxen per pair $100@$160; Milch Cows and Calves at $20@45; fancy Cows at $50@60; Farrow Cows at $12@26; yearlings at $7@14; two years old at $12@20; three years old at $18@35; Western fat Swine, live, at 5¼@5½c per lb.

SHEEP AND LAMBS—Receipts 2,879 head; sales in lots 2 25@4 00 each; extra $4 50@5 00; spring lambs 5¼@7c per lb; Veal Calves at 2½@5½c.

Augusta City Market.

WEDNESDAY, July 14.

APPLES—Dried 5@6, evaporated 18@20c; new $1 50@1 75 per bushel.
BEANS—Pea beans $1 75@1 90, Yellow Eyes $1 90@2 00.
BUTTER—Good butter sells for 14@18c.
CHEESE—New Factory made 10½@12c.
EGGS—14@15c per dozen.
FLOUR—$7 00@9 00 per bbl.
GRAIN—Corn 60@62c; oats 50@55c.
GRASS SEEDS—Timothy $2 85@3 00 per bushel; clover 9@12c per lb; alsike 23@25c per lb; red top 75c per bushel.
HAY—$12 00@16 00.
HONEY—Choice Aroostook honey 17@20c per box.
HIDES AND SKINS—Hides 7@7½c; lamb skins 40@50c; calf skins 12@14c; wool skins 1 00@2 25; deacons 25@35c; shearlings 15@20c.
LIME AND CEMENT—Lime $1 00@1 00 per cask, cement $1 75.
LARD—10c.
MEAL—Corn 58@60c; rye $1 00@1 25.
NATIVE CRANBERRIES—$2 00 per bushel; new $1 75 per bushel.
PRODUCE—Potatoes 40@45c per bushel.
PROVISIONS—Clear salt pork 8@10c; beef per side 6@9c; ham 9@11c; fowls 10@12c; mutton 8c; veal 6@7c; chickens 12@15c; turkeys 10@12c.
SHORTS—$20 per ton.
WOOL—Washed 38@40c; unwashed 28@30c.

Portland Market.

WEDNESDAY, July 14.

APPLES—New, crate $2 25@2 75 per bbl; dried 6@6½c per lb.
BUTTER—17@25c for family; store 15@17c per lb.
BEANS—Pea $1 90@2 00; Yellow Eyes $2 20@2 25.
CHEESE—Maine and Vermont Factory 10@11c.
COAL—Stove and Egg $5 50@7 50.
FLOUR—Superfine $3 75@4 25; Spring X and XX $5 00@6 25; Michigan Winter X and XX $5 50@6 00; Patent spring wheat $7 50@8 75; St. Louis X and XX to best $5 00@6 00.
FISH—Large shore $4 25@4 50; Large bank, $4 50@4 75; small $2 75@3 25; pollock $1 75@2 50; haddock $1 75@2 25; herring $3 00@4 00 per bbl.; scaled 25@28c per box; mackerel per bbl.—bay No. 1 to No. 2, $6 50@7 50; shore Nos. 1, 2 and 3, $5 25@20 00.
GRAIN—Corn car lots 55@56; bag lots 58@58 per bush; oats 45@47; fine feed $18@22 per ton; shorts $20 00 per ton.
HAY—Loose $16 00@20 00 per ton; pressed $14 00@17 00; straw $9 00@10 00.
LARD—Per tierce 7¾@7¾c per lb; per keg 8¼@8½c; pail 9¾@9¾c.
PLASTER—White per ton $3 00; blue $2 75; ground in bbls $7 00@7 50; calcined in bbls $2 25@2 25.
PRODUCE—Beef side 6@9c; veal 6@8c; mutton 6@8c; chickens 14@15c; turkeys 16@18; eggs 14½@15; potatoes 35@45c per bushel; new $1 25@1 75 per bushel.
PROVISIONS—Chicago extra beef $10 00@12 25; pork backs $18 00@18 50; clear $17 50@17 75; mess 13 00@13 50; hams 10@12c per lb; round hogs 6½@7c.
WOOD—Soft mill wood $1 75@2 25 per cord delivered in the city.
WOOL—Unwashed 30@32c; washed 40@42c per lb.

Bangor Produce Market.

BANGOR, July 10.

APPLES—New, crate $2 25@2 75.
BEANS—Yellow Eyes $1 85@2 10 per bush; Pea $1 50@2 00.
BUTTER—15@20c per lb.
EGGS—13@14c per doz.
GRAIN—Oats 40@50c per bush; corn 57@60c.
HAY—$10@14 per ton; pressed $12@15.
HIDES AND SKINS—Wool skins 1 00@2 50 each; hides 6½c per lb; veal skin 12@12½c per lb.
POTATOES—Potatoes are plenty in market and selling from 30 to 35c per bushel; new potatoes $1 50@2 00 per bushel.
PROVISIONS—Pork 14 00@18 00 per bbl; round hog 6½@7c per lb; fresh beef per side 5@9c; lamb 6@8c; mutton 5@6.

New York Money Market.

NEW YORK, July 14.

United States Sixes, 1881,	(reg.)		103¾
" " "	(coup.)		103¾
" " New 5's,	(reg.)		102
" "	(coup.)		103
" " New 4½'s,	(reg.)		109⅞
" "	(coup.)		109⅞
" " New 4's	(reg.)		108¼
" "	(coup.)		108¼
" " Pacific 6's '95			123

Chicago Cattle Market.

CHICAGO, July 13.

HOGS—Receipts 25,000 head; shipments 8,500 head; market ruled stronger under higher Provision market; pens cleared; mixed packing 4 30@4 50; light 4 30@4 50; choice heavy 4 60@4 75.

CATTLE—Receipts 3,500 head; shipments 2,000 head; buyers and sellers apart; common to good 4 20@4 25.

SHEEP—Receipts 700 head; market firm and active; lambs 2 50; Sheep 3 50@4 35.

Boston Market.

BOSTON, WEDNESDAY, July 14.

FLOUR—There is a steady but moderate demand for Flour and prices unchanged; we quote at $3 25@3 75 for Western Superfine; $3 75@4 50 for common extras; $4 00@5 00 for Wisconsin extras; and $5@6 75 per bbl for Minnesota extras, including choice bakers' brands; winter wheats range from $5 25@5 75 for Ohio and Michigan; $5 50@6 00 for Illinois and Indiana; and $5 50@6 50 for St. Louis; patent Wisconsin and Minnesota spring wheats have been selling at $6 75@8 50 per bbl; and patent winter wheats at $6 00@7 50 per barrel. Corn in fair demand and sales at $2 35@2 40 per bbl. In Rye Flour the sales have been in small lots at $4 50@5 00 per bbl. Oat Meal in fair demand and sales at $5 00@6 50 per bbl as to quality.

GRAIN—Corn is quiet at 53@56c per bush. as to quality, for new and old. Oats are selling for No 1 and extra white at 42@45c per bush; No 2 white at 40@40c; No 3 white and No 2 mixed at 36@38c. In Rye small sales at 1 00@1 00 per bush. In Shorts are firm at 16@16 00, and Fine Feed and Middlings at $17 00@18 00.

PROVISIONS—The demand for Pork is moderate and prices are steady; we quote prime at $11 50@12 50; mess at $13 50@14; and clear and extra clear, $17 00@18 50 per bbl. Beef has been selling at 9 50@10 50 for mess and extra mess; 11 00@11 50 for family. Lard is in fair demand and sells at 7½@8c per lb for City and Western, including steam and kettle rendered. Smoked Hams are selling at 10@10½ per lb for City and Western, and 11@11½c for fancy Western.

PRODUCE. There is a good supply of Eggs offering and the market is rather dull. The sales have been at 14½@15c for Eastern; 14@14½c for New York, Vermont and P. E. Island; 12@12½c for Canada; 11@12c per dozen for Western. Pea Beans continue firm, and have been in good demand. The sales have ranged from $1 80@1 90 for Western and Northern. Mediums are in moderate request, and sales at $1 30@1 40. Yellow Eyes are firm at $2 25@2 40, and have been in good demand, and Red Kidneys are slow of sale at $1 40@1 50 per bushel. Peas are steady, with sales at previous prices. The market for old Potatoes has been very dull and unsettled during the week, the sales ranging from 25@50c per bushel. New Southern are coming forward quite freely, and any further receipts of old will be difficult to place. New Southern have been selling at $1 50@2 50 per bbl, and Bermuda at $5 50@6 per bbl. Bermuda Onions have been selling at $2@2 25 per crate. New Southern Apples have been arriving quite freely, and sales at 50@1 25 per half bbl. crate.

HAY—The market is firm for all choice grades of Hay, but other kinds are not so firm. The arrivals have been large and sales at $19@20 per ton for choice; $15@17 for ordinary grades, and $12@14 per ton for common. Rye Straw is in fair demand with sales at $24@25 per ton. In Oat Straw the sales have been at $9@11 per ton.

Wool Market.

BOSTON, WEDNESDAY, July 14.

The sales of fleeces have been 125,000 lbs. and included Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia at 45@48c for XX and XXX and No 1; 41@45c for Michigan and Wisconsin X and medium up to 47c for No 1; and low fleeces at 37½@38c per lb. The sales of combing and delane fleeces have been 150,000 lbs at 40@50c for washed and 33@38c for unwashed. Choice No 1 combing is held at 55c per lb. In unwashed Wools the sales have been 375,000 lbs at prices ranging from 18@36c per lb, as to quality, the desirable medium grades of Missouri, Kentucky and Georgia selling at 35@36c per lb. Spring California attracts considerable attention, and the best grades of Northern and sought after. The sales have been 500,000 lbs spring at 25@40c, including choice Northern Wool at 35@40c per lb, the latter price for fancy clips; 20,000 lbs fall California sold at 18c.

Cheese Market.

LITTLE FALLS, N. Y., July 12.

The market was very dull, prices having declined 1c per pound; sales were made of 8,000 boxes of Factory Cheese at 7¾@9c, the bulk bringing 8½c; 260 boxes of dairy-made cheese at 7@8½c, and 300 packages of butter at 18@20c.

Hundreds of Ladies,

Who have been unable to attend to their duties owing to periodical sickness, have found Warner's Safe Kidney and Liver Cure a real "friend in need." Being a purely vegetable compound and containing all the elements of safety as well as those of power it has become universally popular. During the summer especially, it is a certain preventive for the numerous Kidney, Liver and Urinary troubles incident to the season. All druggists sell it, and none except those in *perfect* health can afford to be without it.

A food and a medicine are combined in the most perfect manner in Malt Bitters.

ALASKA. When Secretary Seward set about the purchase of Alaska from the Russians, the matter of expenditure was lamented over as so much money thrown away; but Missionary Sheldon Jackson's book on Alaska, recently published in New York, goes to show that, if we have got an elephant on our hands, it is at any rate a pretty big one, and one with two sides, on either of which a good deal can be said. Alaska is, in the first place, as large as all that part east of the Mississippi and North of North Carolina. In the next place, it has sixty-one volcanoes, but these can hardly be reckoned as good assets. Thirdly, it has the highest mountain peaks within our borders—Mount St. Elias—looming up to the figure of 19,500 feet; Mount Cook, 16,000, and others not far behind. Fourthly, its rivers are among the largest in the world, the Yukon being navigable for 1,500 miles, and having a width for the first 1,000 miles of from one to five miles. Owing to the influence of the Japan gulf-stream the winter of Southern Alaska is as mild as that of Kentucky. The trouble is with its length. The summer is short, but Kentucky blue-grass grows in luxuriance, and black currants, strawberries and cranberries grow wild, and almost all kinds of garden vegetables flourish. The fisheries are unequalled. Think of a salmon weighing 60 pounds! Three thousand tons of codfish were taken off the Shumajus Islands last year, while the Alaska Commercial Company, which pays to our government a royalty of $262,500 a year on seal-skins, has leased the Pribyloff Islands for thirty years at an annual rental of $55,000. These islands have yielded to the United States Treasury since 1871 a total of over $2,500,000. The Russians did something toward civilizing the inhabitants of what travellers have called "The Great Lone Land," and the American missionaries are trying to complete the job; but it must be confessed that the inhabitants of the water in that part of the world are rather more attractive than those that live on the land.

BANKS. From the official table of the banks of the United States, with the details of their resources and liabilities from 1830 to 1880 just issued at Washington, it appears that in the first named year there were 394 banks, with a capital of $148,000,000, with a circulation of $51,000,000, with deposits of $58,000,000, with $25,000,000 of specie and $9,000,000 of real estate resources. In 1840 there were 907 banks, with $363,000,000 of capital, $88,000,000 of circulation, $120,000,000 of deposits, $35,000,000, of specie and $26,000,000 of real estate. In 1850 there was a decrease in the number of banks to 824, in capital to $217,000,000 and in deposits to $109,000,000, with an increase of circulation to $118,000,000 and of specie to $45,000,000, and with a reduction in real estate to $21,000,000. But in 1860, the number of banks had nearly doubled, numbering 1,597, with $427,000,000 of capital, $156,000,000 of circulation, $271,000,000 of deposits, $90,000,000 of specie and $28,000,000 of real estate. Since 1870, there has been a steady increase, until now the number of banks stands at 2,049, with a capital of $454,000,000, with a decrease in circulation from that in 1870 of $6,000,000, and with $16,000,000 less specie; the real estate resources are $48,000,000, and deposits $767,000,000—an increase of $709,000,000 since 1830. During the same period the total of banking liabilities and resources has increased from $270,000,000 to $1,500,000,000. This rapid development marks an advance in national prosperity.

FARMERS in this vicinity are using Paris Green on their potato vines with most satisfactory results, where the pure article is used; when the green is purchased in pound cans see that they are marked, "*Pure*" as that marked Genuine is generally of inferior quality, though frequently sold at same price and a pound of the pure is worth two of the common. Partridge Bros., are selling large quantities of the pure article.

MY wife and daughter was made healthy by the use of Hop Bitters and I recommend them to my people.—Methodist Clergyman.

DECENNIAL CELEBRATION AT NEW SWEDEN. The decennial celebration of the founding of New Sweden in the woods of Maine will take place at New Sweden, Friday, July 23d, 1880. The Governor and Council of Maine and other prominent citizens will be present. In the forenoon the exercises will be held at the "Capitol." There will be an address of welcome from the Swedes, an historical address by Hon. W. W. Thomas, Jr., the founder of New Sweden, and short addresses from Gov. Davis, Senator Hamlin, General Chamberlain, Col. Stone, and others, interspersed with Swedish songs and music. At noon, lunch. In the afternoon the First Swedish Church of Maine will be dedicated with appropriate ceremonies.

Tickets to Caribou (the railroad terminus, six miles from New Sweden) and return may be procured at all the principal ticket offices of the Maine Central and European and North American railways, at the following reduced rates: From Portland to Caribou and return, $8.25; Augusta to Caribou and return, $8.00; Bangor to Caribou and return, $5.25. From other points in proportion. These tickets will be sold only on July 20th and 21st, and at Bangor and points east on the morning of July 22d, and will be good to return on, up to and including Saturday, July 31st. Passengers may leave Portland and intervening stations for Bangor on any train on night of July 21st. Leave Bangor, Thursday, July 22d, at 7.17 A. M. Dine at Vanceboro at 12.35 P. M. Arrive at Woodstock, on the St. John river, at 4 P. M. Leave immediately on special train on the New Brunswick (narrow guage) railway, and follow up the St. John and Aroostook rivers to Caribou, arriving about 8.15 P. M., and passing the night there.

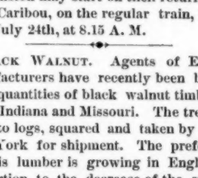
Friday, July 23d. Drive into New Sweden, starting from Caribou at 8 A. M. Return to Caribou in the afternoon, after conclusion of exercises at New Sweden. Pass the night at Caribou.

Saturday, July 24. A special train will leave Caribou at about 8.15 A. M., and run to Edmunston (Little Falls), passing through Fort Fairfield and Grand Falls. This will give an opportunity of seeing Grand Falls and the French Acadian settlements along our Northern border, and of spending Sunday either at Caribou, Fort Fairfield, Grand Falls or Edmunston. Those who do not wish to make the trip to Edmunston may start on their return home from Caribou, on the regular train, Saturday, July 24th, at 8.15 A. M.

BLACK WALNUT. Agents of English manufacturers have recently been buying large quantities of black walnut timber in Iowa, Indiana and Missouri. The trees are cut into logs, squared and taken by rail to New York for shipment. The preference for this lumber is growing in England in proportion to the decrease of the supply, and the demand on American forests is rendering lands of black walnut growth very valuable. Years ago the timber was not appreciated, and western farms were fenced with black walnut rails. The alarm sounded because of these recent large English purchases, that the United States will soon be barren of black walnut is premature at least. The western states named have not the exclusive growth of that tree. It flourishes in Illinois and in northwestern Ohio. North Carolina has vast forests of black walnut, and it is found in other southern states. But while there is a present abundance there is none to waste, and appreciation of the value of the wood will correct error in the latter direction.

Special Notices.

ROYAL



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A CARD.

To all who are suffering from the errors and indiscretions of youth, nervous weakness, early decay, loss of manhood, etc., I will send a recipe that will cure you FREE OF CHARGE. This great remedy was discovered by a missionary in South America. Send a self-addressed envelope to the REV. JOSEPH T. INMAN, Station D., New York City. 1y34

Married.

In Athens, June 23, Erastus D. Williams, M. D., of Corinville to Annie N. Goodwin.
In Bangor, July 4, Frank Southard to Hattie A. Flowers of Houlton; July 5, Samuel Lord to Maggie D. Blake; John T. Hoskins to Mrs. Sarah F. Bakeman; July 8, George F. Snow to Annie Martin; June 19, Wilbur W. Hamlin of Milo to Sadie E. McCorrison of Atkinson.
In Brewer, July 5, Hiram O. Eaton to Clara M. Danforth.
In Brighton, July 3, Chas. F. Burnell to Hattie I. Pratt of Minot.
In Brownfield, July 4, Lorenzo Stone to Lucetta J. Webb.
In Brunswick, June 28, Luke M. Shephard of Monmouth to Flora E. Allen of Durham.
In Calais, June 13, John King of Princeton to Lavinia J. Moutgomery.
In Cambridge, June 27, Seth C. Ham to Hattie N. Morrell.
In Charlottetown, P. E. I., July 1, John A. McPherson to Bethia Moore of Milton.
In Chelsea, July 5, P. Hayes to Anna Mansel.
In Concord, July 5, Truman Berry to Sarah Holbrook of Embden.
In Cotuit, Mass., June 30, Dana O. Coolidge to Ada Nickerson.
In Eddington Bend, Charles E. Drew of Minneapolis, Minn., to Annie F. Spratt.
In Ellsworth, July 5, Fred W. Brown of Belfast to Hester M. Pierce.
In Fairfield, July 5, Joseph Garnier to Mary Garnier.
In Foxcroft, July 4, Rinaldo O. Austin of Parkman to Isabel F. Martin of Dexter; June 19, George W. Lary of Sebec to Rose M. Hartnett.
In Garland, July 4, George Skillin to Eliza A. McComb.
In Guilford, June 12, Frank E. Moore to Mrs. Emeline Crawford, both of Dexter; June 19, Herbert L. Hanly to Mary A. Holt, both of Sangerville.
In Greene, June 15, Chas. A. Gassett to Mary E. Taylor, both of Lewiston.
In Haverhill, N. H., June 18, Granville I. Smart, M. D., to Mattie A. Plummer, both of Fryeburg.
In Hebron, June 14, Baker Phillips to Mrs. Clara J. Phillips.
In Lewiston, June 24, Marshall H. White of Bowdoinham to Mary E. Libby; June 30, Allison E. Tuttle of Farmington to Cathie S. Starbird; July 1, Edward S. Corliss to Abbie T. Hinckley; July 4, John A. Witham to Annie P. Nason, both of New Gloucester.
In Marblehead, Mass., Joseph H. Phillips to Ella S. Jordan of Ellsworth.
In Marshfield, July 1, Will G. Means of Machias to Nellie B. Getchell.
In Montville, July 5, Mibbard E. Daniels to Abbie F. Stevens.
In Naples, July 5, Gideon Bean, Jr., to Lilian B. Smith of Otisfield; June 30, Wesley Emerson of Stowe to Georgietta Chaplin.
In Newport, July 3, Sumner F. Damon of Etna to Flora E. Barrett.
In New Portland, July 5, Frank Briggs to Lizzie E. Hutchinson, both of Anson.
In New Vineyard, July 4, Isaiah S. Wilcox to Mae B. Mitchell.
In North Auburn, July 6, John Sheehan to Mrs. Janette W. Pillsbury, both of Lewiston.
In Northport, July 4, Jesse T. Priest to Abbie H. Lear of Saco.
In Orland, July 4, Chas. W. DeBeach to Mamie E. Treworthy, both of Bucksport.
In Parkman, June 20, Chas. A. Kimball to Dora F. Morrill of Cambridge.
In Patten, June 24, Geo. A. Sampson of Caribou to Sarah L. Miles.
In Pembroke, June 30, O. C. Evans of Atlantic City, N. J. to Philena W. Clark.
In Portland, July 3, Hibert E. Plummer to Hattie B. Hurlburt, both of Scarboro; July 5, Wm. J. Anderson to Julia A. Stevens; July 6, Thos. P. R. Cartland to Annie F. Bean.
In Portsmouth, N. H., June 9, Isaac D. Byram to Mrs. Nettie Green, both of Freeport.
In Princeton, June 30, N. B. Farrar of Baileyville to Laura A. Caldwell.
In Richmond, July 5, John A. Berry of Gardiner to Rebecca J. Merriman.
In Rockland, June 17, George E. Carr of Searsport to Hattie A. Prescott; July 2, Nathaniel Meservey to Sarah A. Clark; July 3, Elder Whidden of Bristol to Stella E. Clough; July 4, Frederick E. Carey to Emma J. Greenlaw, both of Camden; July 5, Lewis Cole of Boston to Maggie Harrington.
In Skowhegan, June 30, Arlon A. Ballou of Franklin, Mass., to Elizabeth A. Reed; July 4, George R. French to Carrie L. Smith, both of Cornville.
In Steuben, June 28, James M. Colson of Harrington to Emma E. Pinkham.
In Sullivan, June 15, Leslie H. Andrews to Annie G. Miller of Carmel; July 2, Llewellyn Merchant to Cora Eaton of Mt. Desert; July 4, Chas. A. Petiee to Lizzie F. Johnson.
In Turner, June 29, Frank E. Wills to Ellen M. Dresser.
In Union, June 30, Edwin Snow of Natick, Mass., to Estelle Condon of Appleton.
In Vassalboro', July 12, Samuel D. Rodicks to Isabel O. Walker.
In Washington, June 27, Lincoln Winchenbach to Delahana Ashorn.
In West Paris, June 23, Stephen B. Curtis to Mrs. Mary E. Curtis.

Died.

In Albany, June 14, Bessie Bolter, aged 2½ years.
In Alblon, June 7, Henry Pray, aged 30 years.
In Aspen Hill, Va., Mrs. Harriet Lane of Hollis, aged 81 years.
In Auburn, June 30, Harry Dyer, aged 13, days; July 2, Jessie L. Pierce, aged 19½ years.
In Bangor, June 7, John R. O'Donnell, aged 25 years.
In Bath, July 2, Henry Butts, aged 47¾ years; July 8, Sarah Malia, aged 6 years; Joseph Prescott, aged 60 years.
In Belmont, July 6, Annie L. Wellman, aged 21¼ years.
In Blaine, June 27, Frankie Hotham, aged 1½ years; July 3, Moses Crain, aged 64 years.
In Brooklyn, June 29, Richard Carter, aged 76 years.
In Brunswick, July 1, Mrs. Anna L. Clark, formerly of Bangor; July 4, Rebecca Toothaker, aged 83 years.
In Camden, June 27, Mrs. D. B. Withington.
In Carthage, June 28, Hiram Coburn, aged 74 years.
In Chesterville, JJly 5, Mrs. Betsey Getchell, aged 82 years.
In China, July 7, Charles E. Washburn, aged 39¾ years; July 6, Abraham Ward, aged 73 years.
In Corinth, June 12, Maude V., aged 2¼ years; June 28, Annie M., aged 10¾ years—children of Jos. S. Flanders.
In Cornish, June 14, Mrs. Rebecca M. Pease.
In Cumberland Mills, July 7, Harlan P. Horr, aged 1¾ years.
In Dayton, June 25, Joseph Mason, aged 77¼ years.
In Dexter, June 20, Mrs. Maria Williams, aged 73 years; July 2, Jason F. Page, aged 60 years; June 6, Mrs. Hattie M. Connery of Boston, aged 32 years.
In Eastport, July 5, Thos. Gregg of Brewer, aged 79 years.
In Edes Falls, June 15, Mrs. Eliza Moody, aged 53 years.
In Edgecomb, June 23, Mrs. Abagail C. Clifford.
In Ellsworth, July 1, A. A. Bartlett, aged 50 years.
In Ellsworth Falls, June 25, Fanuie M. Arnold, aged 21¾ years.
In Exeter, June 23, Mrs. Nancy Campeon, aged 69¾ years.
In East Vassalboro, May 8, Mrs. Emily Bourne, aged 42½ years.
In Fryeburg, June 26, Hon. Henry D. Hutchins, aged 42¾ years.
In Gardiner, July 3, Emma F. Smith, aged 8 years; July 7, Hattie H. Rhoades, aged 47½ years.
In Garland, July 2, Mrs. Hannah Page, aged 62 years.
In Gray, July 6, Thos. Burrows, aged 53½ years.
In Hallowell, July 5, Mrs. Elizabeth Hodgkins of Bath, aged 70 years.
In Hampden, June 27, John T. Webb, aged 76 years.
In Harrison, June 24, Mrs. Rebecca Brackett, aged aged 61 years.
In Hebron, June 25, Seth Bearce, aged 79½ years.
In Hopkinton, Mass., July 4, Mrs. Sarah F. Currier, formerly of Ellsworth Falls, aged 24 years.
In Knightville, (Cape Elizabeth), July 8, Everett Downes, aged 38 years.
In Knox, June 30, James Wentworth, aged 18 years.
In Lamoine, June 26, Hannah Gilpatric, aged 48¾ years.
In Lewiston, July 6, Wallace R. Hunt, aged 1 year; July 7, Wm. J. Skelton, aged 5 weeks.
In Lexington, July 1, Mrs. James Wilbur, aged 40 years; Joseph Marston, aged 70 years.
In Martinsville, July 1, James Wiley, aged 85½ years.
In Monson, June 13, Mrs. Lorica Bray, aged 30 years.
In Mt. Vernon, June 28, Martha Webber, aged 65 years.
In Newcastle, July 3, Mrs. Mary L. Glidden, aged 93 years; July 4, David L. Teague, aged 13 years.
In New Gloucester, June 29, Mrs. Caroline D. Jordan.
In Nobleboro, July 4, Mrs. Maria L. Clark, aged 63 years; Cyrus E. Baker, aged 29½ years.
In North Jay, July 3, John Packard, aged 83 years.
In North Yarmouth, July 5, Dorcas L. Hicks.
In Pishon's Ferry, July 5, Mrs. Lucila Eldridge, aged 19 years.
In Pittston, June 25, Mrs. Lucy Morrill, aged 36 years; Elias H. Lawrence, aged 56 years.
In Portland, July 3, Mrs. Emily Kimball, aged 42 years; July 4, Isaac Otis, aged 85¾ years; July 8, Oliver Crummitt; John Sweet, aged 64 years; July 9, May E. Waterhouse, aged 11½ years.
In Princeton, June 19, Neil Taylor, aged 78 years.
In Quebec, May 19, Sarah A. Farnham, aged 35¾ years.
In Rockland, July 3, Katie McNamara, aged 25¼ years; July 5, Freddie J. Kelloch, aged 6¾ years.
In Saco, June 22, Henry R. Jose, aged 19¾ years; June 29, Mrs. Hannah Leighton, aged 88½ years.
In Skowhegan, July 2, J. R. Farwell, aged 71 years.
In South Thomaston, July 3, Bridget Leonard, aged 35 years.
In Standish, July 4, Eva M. Rich, aged 1 year.
In State Reform School, July 3, John E. Gordon of Bath, aged 19 years.
In Steep Falls, July 1, C. N. Shaw, aged 42 years.
In St. George, July 2, Stephen Jones, aged 46¾ years.
In Thorndike, July 4, John L. Prouty, aged 62 years.
In Topsham, July 4, Samuel Jameson, aged 64 years.
In Troy, July 3, Rufus Plummer, aged 70 years.
In Vinalhaven, June 30, Isaac Arey, aged 88 years.
In Waldo, June 29, Olive M. Simpson, aged 67½ years.
In Waldoboro, July 3, Daniel Creamer, aged 83 years.
In Warren, June 15, Mrs. Lucy A. Burton, aged 63½ years.
In Waterville, July 7, George P. Moran, aged 8 months.
In West Auburn, June 28, Mrs. Celia Conant, aged 73½ years.
In West Camden, July 6, Henry P. Andrews, aged 22¼ years.
In West Pembroke, June 24, Wm. C. Bosworth, aged 42¼ years.
In West Westport, Joel Barlett, aged 77¼ years.
In West Washington, June 25, Lumber A. Folsom, aged 27½ years.
In Worcester, Mass., June 29, Lizzie M. Dyer of Cape Elizabeth, aged 24¼ years.

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Vicar of Wakefield.
By Oliver Goldsmith. Brevier type, beautiful print; **price five cents.**

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By author of "Sparrowgrass Papers," Small pica type, leaded; **price two cents.**

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For Young Folks, by Ellen Tracy Alden; with very fine illustrations. Selections complete from her book. Large type; **price five cents.**

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NOTICE

Is hereby given, that the subscriber has been duly appointed administrator, with the will annexed, on the estate of Horace W. Hutchinson, late of Fayette, in the County of Kennebec, deceased, intestate, and has undertaken that trust by giving bond as the law directs: All persons, therefore, having demands against the estate of said deceased, are desired to exhibit the same for settlement; and all indebted to said estate are requested to make immediate payment to
SULLIVAN A. HUTCHINSON, Fayette.
June 14, 1880. 3f34

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July 12, 1880. 4f34

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FISHING TACKLE.

Sportsmen are invited to call and examine my stock of fishing tackle, not only for Black Bass, but for Trout, Pickerel and deep sea fishing.

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Poetry.

Don.

This is Don, the dog of dogs, sir,
Just as thou outrank frogs, sir,
Just as eagles are superior
To buzzards and that tribe inferior.

He's a shepherd lad—a beauty—
And to praise him seems a duty,
But it puts my pen to shame, sir,
When his virtues I would name, sir,
"Don! come here and bend your head now,
Let us see your best well-bred bow!"
Was there ever such a creature?
Common-sense in every feature!"
"Don! rise up and look around you!"
Blessings on the day we found you.

Sell him! well, upon my word, sir,
That's a notion too absurd, sir,
Would I sell our little Ally,
Barter Tom, dispose of Sally,
Think you I'd negotiate
For my *wife*, at any rate?

Sell our Don! you're surely joking,
And 'tis fun at us you're poking!
Twenty voyages we've tried, sir,
Sleeping, waking, side by side, sir,
And Don and I will not divide, sir;
He's my *friend*, that's why I love him,—
And no mortal dog's above him!

He prefers a life aquatic,
But never dog was less dogmatic.
Years ago, when I was master
Of a tight brig called the Castor,
Don and I were bound for Cadiz,
With the loviest of ladies
And her boy—a stalwart, hearty,
Crowing, one year infant party,
Full of childhood's myriad graces,
Rubbing sunshine in our faces
As we bowled along so steady,
Half-way home or more, already.

How the sailors loved our darling!
No more swearing, no more snarling;
On their backs, when not on duty,
Round they bore the blue-eyed beauty,—
Singing, shouting, leaping, prancing,—
All the crew took turns in dancing;
Every tar played Punchinello
With the pretty laughing fellow;
Even the second mate gave sly winks
At the noisy mid-day high jinks,
Never was a crew so happy
With a curly headed chappy,
Never were such sports gigantic,
Never dog with joy more antic.

While thus jolly, all together,
There blew up a change of weather,
Nothing stormy, but quite breezy,
And the wind grew damp and wheezy,
Like a gale in too low spirits
To put forth one half its merits.
But, perchance, a dry land ranger
Might suspect some kind of danger.

Soon our stanch and gallant vessel
With the waves began to wrestle,
And began to jump about a trifle,
Sometimes kicking, like a rifle
When 'tis slightly overloaded,
But by no means nigh exploded.

'Twas the coming on of twilight,
As we stood abaft the skylight,
Scampering round to please the baby,
(Old Bill Benson had held him, maybe),
When the youngster stretched his fingers
Towards the spot where sunset lingers,
And with strong and sudden motion
Leaped into the weltering ocean!

"*What* did Don do?" Can't you guess, sir?
He sprang also—by express—sir;
Seized the infant's little dress, sir,
Held the baby's head up boldly
From the waves that rushed so coldly;
And in just about a minute
Our boat had them safe within it.

Sell him! Would you sell your brother?
Don and I love one another.
—*J. T. Fields.*

Our Story Teller.

NUMBER TWO MELROSE SQUARE.

(CONCLUDED.)

CHAPTER II.

I said at the end of the first part of this statement that I was aroused from my occupation by the sudden sensation that some one was in the room with me. It was not so in fact. One glance round the formal, gas-lit apartment, with its rather skimpy curtains looped flatly against the wall, and its utter absence of anything like dark corners or ghostly recesses, was enough to assure me of my error; but the feeling remained with me all the same, and grew stronger instead of passing away.

It almost seemed as though some one were seated at the same table with me, breathing near me, occupying the very next chair, and then gradually there stole over me the same sensation I had had before with regard to this room, as if some crime, some deadly, sickening sin which appalled me even while I was utterly ignorant of its nature, were being plotted and worked out in it—sometimes too hideous to be rendered into words, but to which I, by the very fact of my presence there, was being made a party. It was then, at that moment, that the thought of what I had seen in the mirror last night came into my mind. I was exactly under the drawing-room floor where it had stood—the vision-woman, with that awful, unspoken mystery of horror and despair in her livid cheeks and dim, dilated eyes. Was this unknown, unguessed-at wickedness being woven and worked out against her? Was she up there now, waiting?

I had been sitting down, holding my letters in my hand, trying honestly and hard to think of them and nothing else. I could not do so any longer. I stood up abruptly. There was a trembling in my limbs and hands, and my forehead felt cold and moist. All the while I was putting up my papers my eyes would keep wandering by a sort of fascination to the mirror. I could see nothing in it. The gauze prevented me; yet it seemed to me more than once as if the reflection of something—some moving figure, not mine—had passed across it, as if, but for the veil—I could not bear it, and went out quickly from the room, shutting and locking the door behind me. There was no light in the hall or upon the stairs, except the candle I carried. After putting that ready for me, Mrs. Cathers had turned on the gas. I went up stairs with swift steps—swiftest in passing the drawing-room door.

I have said the staircase took a bend here and crossed a long window, which in daylight lighted it from top to bottom. This window gave on the dead wall of a neighboring house about eight feet distant. There was no blind to it. As on the first night, I saw myself reflected at full length in it, the candle in my hand, the buttons and fringes of my dress, the—my God! but who, who or what was that behind me, that crouching figure which froze me to the spot, actually paralyzed with dread—a dread which was all the more overmastering because I had heard no faintest rustle or sound to give me warning of it.

Believe me or not; but just below me, creeping slowly with soft, gliding, noiseless steps, was the figure of a man!

At the moment he was not on the same angle of the stairs with me. The banisters separated us, and at first the light only fell on his—the head of an old man, bald, with tufts of grayish white hair hanging in coarse, shaggy locks over the large, red, wrinkly ears, and a short, stuby beard, white, too; an old man with stooping shoulders and heavily corrugated brow. The face beneath was inexpressibly evil and repulsive; evil and repulsive in the loose, hanging, sensual lips; evil and repulsive in the cruel, vindicative eyes, almost hidden under their overhanging brows; so evil and repulsive in every line and curve of the hoary head and brutal, wolfish jaws, that even if met by daylight, in a crowded street, one would instinctively have shuddered and shrunk away from contact with him. How much more so now, when illumined by an expression of such deadly, sinister determination that the very sight of it seemed to chill one's heart and limbs, and deprive one even of the power of a cry for help.

In that moment of mortal, agonized terror, longer in seeming than all the years of my past life, I felt as though in the presence of some ferocious animal; some creature without pity, without conscience, without soul, whose very glance must foul and destroy if it once fell on one.

For that was the strangest part of it, adding in one way to the mystery and horror of his presence. This creature, man or devil, never looked at me; never knew it were possible to believe such a thing, unconscious even of my presence. Like the vision-woman of last night, its eyes were fixed straight before it. Like the vision-woman of last night, they never blinked or wandered once, but seemed concentrated in one fixed, deadly stare which had for its object the drawing-room door! Could it be—was it possible, or was this some horrible dream?—that she was there now, cowing behind that door; a woman, young, almost a child, alone in the night, utterly friendless, waiting and listening in an anguish of fear beyond words, beyond hope, beyond even prayer, for the approach of this very man who, step by step, was gradually drawing nearer to her—the man whose unseen presence had made the room below horrible with meditated crime, whom I had thought to leave behind me there!

I could see the whole of him now. Inch by inch, with a stealthy, crawling movement, as though he was raising himself by the wrinkled, sinewy hand which grasped the rail of the banisters so close to me that it almost touched my dress rather than by the use of his feet. He had gained the landing outside the drawing-room door; and I saw that he was clad only in trousers and shirt, the latter open at the throat so as to show the wrinkled, hairy skin; also, that he carried in his left hand an ordinary table-knife, with a black horn handle, the blade of which, worn to a point like a dagger, had evidently been rencently sharpened. I saw, too, for the first time, that he was not alone. Close to his side, and alternately rubbing herself against his legs and the knuckles of his left hand was a big, yellow, gaunt-bodied cat with an unusually large head, and one eye bleeding and sore from some recent wound.

There was something particularly horrible about this cat, horrible even in the almost obtrusive way in which she lavished her caresses on her sinister companion, and then, leaping forward, crouched down at the door, smelling at it and turning her sound eye on her master, as if aware of his object, and inviting him to hurry with it. Still without a word, and seeming indeed to hold his breath between his clenched teeth, he struck at her with the knife to drive her off; and then, gliding closer to the door, gave one furtive glance around him, and, tightening his hold of the weapon, laid his hand upon the lock.

That broke the spell which held me, and had held me until then, numb and speechless; and as the handle slowly turned under those cruel, sinewy fingers, I shrieked aloud, shrieked again and again, till the whole house rang with my cries of fear and horror; shrieked, and springing wildly forward, saw—nothing! a blank, empty space, where a moment before had been man and animal, and let the candle fall out of my nerveless fingers down between the banister and far below, clattering into darkness.

What happened next, or how I got there, I shall never know; but it was early dawn when I recovered consciousness, and I was lying face downward on the floor in my own room. Some one—Mrs. Cathers it was—was trying to lift me up; but at first I did not recognize her, and the touch of a hand only wrung a faint cry from me, and and made me go off again into a second fainting fit. I suppose she must have got some water then and dashed it my face; for, when I next revived, both it and my hair were dripping with wet, and I opened my eyes and saw her bending over me. But I was still only half-conscious. I did not know where I was or what had happened to me, and my first effort of returning life was to cling to this woman, so repungant to me usually, and moan out faint contradictory entreaties that she would stay with me, that she would not leave me; and then, at the same time, that she would run to that poor girl and save her. "Oh, do go to her; do, do, or he will kill her. He will have killed her by now."

"Killed her! Why, ma'am, whatever are you talking on? There's no one in the 'ouse but you an' me. There ain't indeed. On my conscience there ain't." This, or something like this, Mrs. Cathers kept repeating; but I hardly heard or understood. The frenzy of terror, only half subdued by exhaustion, was still on me; and when I found she would not move I tried to rise, and falling, burst into a fit of hysterical weeping, which lasted so long that Mrs. Cathers got quite frightened. She ran for some brandy and poured it down my throat, and this partially revived me; but by this time I was as weak as a child, and the woman had to half lift, half drag me on to the bed, and then stooped her head low to hear my whispered request, urged with tremulous eagerness, that even if she were sure that there was no one in the house, she would send at once to the friends I had been with last evening, and beg Mrs. L—— to come to me. To my surprise and sorrow, however, this Mrs. Cathers would not do. She had a hundred reasons to the contrary. There was no one to send, and I was not well enough to be left, and if I liked to write to Mrs. L——later she would put the note in the pillar; all of which did not satisfy me; for with all my suspicions of the woman revived by her reluctance to carry out such a simple and natural wish, I could not feel sure that my letter I might write would reach its destination. Besides, a better idea had come into my head, and finding her obstinate on that score, I begged her her to help me dress, and call a cab, declaring that I would go to the L——'s myself. That would save all delay and they would take care of me. I could not and would not sleep another night in that house.

Mrs. Cathers lost patience.

"Tush, ma'am! Wh:t's the matter with the 'ouse?" she said rudely, and pressing me back on the pillows with a hand strong enough to be unpleasantly suggestive in my weak state. "There's not a soul stirred in it but yourself after the gentleman went last night, and nothing 'aint happened except that you've nearly druv yourself into a fever an' got a fit of the hysterieks with the bad air in that beastly Museum, an' writin' mornin' noon an' evenin' too, as is enongh to drive anyone mad. I expect you was reg'lar wore out, and most like fell asleep aside on your bed a-sayin' your prayers, and got awful nightmares in consequence, as was only natural. Why, you was cryin' out and struggling in one still when I came up stairs. And now just you lie down ma'am, and take a sleep to quiet you. Why, bless you, you'll be all right when you wake, and thankful to me I didn't let you go rampagin' about when you wasn't sensible that you was sayin' or doin.'"

I looked up in the woman's face and saw that it was useless to try either argument or command on her; for there was a darkly obstinate expression about her mouth which told me she meant to have her way. Perhaps if I pretended to give in to her and lay still for a while, I might be able to get up later and leave the house without further appeal to her. That any such appeal would be futile I felt sure. Indeed, her resolutuness in keeping me in the house and preventing me from speaking to other people, with her peculiarly persistent avoidance of asking me any question, either now or on previous nights, as to what had happened, preferring to put forward a made-up story of her own as though she were going through a programme learned by rote beforehand, made me certain that she either knew more of the secrets of this gloomy house than any one suspected, or was in the landlord's pay to keep them from being brought to the light of day at any cost, even of life or reason, to a tenant. Put before yourself what would be the natural curiosity, wonder and sympathy of most women of the lower orders on such an occasion, and I think you will come to a similar conclusion.

Acting on this idea, I made believe to yield to her way of thinking, and also to her making me a cup of tea, which she declared would do me all the good in the world. In truth, I was both thirsty and anxious above all things to regain strength enough to carry out my purpose; and therefore when she brought me up a large breakfast-cup full, I raised myself and drank it off greedily, although it struck me in so doing that it was not good tea, and had a strange, bitter flavor. The next moment I felt myself sinking heavily back and my eyes closing. I opened them with an effort, and looked at Mrs. Cathers.

There was a smile on her face; but it seemed to be getting fainter, as though I saw it through a thickening mist; and when I tried to say, "You have given me a narcotic," my voice sounded thick, and the words seemed to lose themselves between my teeth. Before they were fairly uttered, sound and sight, too, had faded away, and I was fast asleep.

How long I slept I do not know, but I should judge it was about four hours. Narcotics, especially in strong doses, have rather a curious effect on me. They both operate and lose their power far more rapidly and thoroughly than with most people. It wanted a few minutes to eleven when I awoke, and, with the exception of a slight headache, I felt at once that both my perceptions and my memory were quite clear. My bodily powers, too, had come in a great degree; for, though I felt much weaker that usual, I was quite able to rise, and lost no time in dressing myself for walking, and putting up my money and a few valuables in a small hand-bag as softly and swiftly as possible. My intention was to leave the house, if possible, without seeing Mrs. Cathers again; and at first I seemed likely to succeed. There was no sign of her on the stairs, as I passed that awful window, now blank and bare, and filled with raw, white daylight; or in the drawing-room, the door of which stood wide open; and as I hastened down a shudder ran through my limbs, and a feeling of sickness came over me when I noticed, what I had not seen before, a large brownish stain, which had been partially obliterated by scraping and washing, on the stencilled wall just outside the room.

There was no sign of Mrs. Cathers in the hall either, and the whole house was as still and silent as if she, too, had dozed herself off to sleep. It was, therefore, an unpleasant shock to me when I lifted the latch of the front door, expecting next moment to be in the street, to find that it was locked and the key gone. The dining room too was in darkness, the shutters being still up and barred; and a feeling of nervous dread prevented me from giving more than a hasty glance into it. I preferred to boldly invade the kitchen regions, and, if I saw Mrs. Cathers, desire her to let me out by the area door. She could hardly refuse; and if she did, there were enough passers-by at this time for me to easily attract some one's attention. I went down stairs accordingly. They were narrow stairs, and though clean enough at present, had evidently not been kept so by previous tenants, for they were stained with blackish spots and patches nearly all the way to the bottom, as though something had been spilled down them, and soaking into the wood remained there. I noticed, too, that the wall on one side had been white-washed for about three feet up at a much later period than the rest.

To my surprise, Mrs. Cathers was not in the kitchen below; nor in her own room, which adoined it, and the door of which standing open, showed me that her bonnet and shawl were gone from the peg where, on my previous visits to the basement, I had always seen them hanging. It flashed upon me then that she had gone out on some errand of her own, trusting to my being sound asleep, and probably meaning to return before the influence of the narcotic had worn off; and when, to my intense relief and thankfulness, I discovered that she had omitted or forgotten to fasten the area door behind her. I felt as though a heavy weight had been rolled off my heart, and a sudden resolution came to me to profit by her absence, by endeavoring to discover some clue, if any existed, to those horrors nightly enacted up-stairs. It did not seem likely that I should; but at least I had courage to try.

The kitchen and lower offices generally I had examined before, and found them all alike, dreary in the dreariness of dark November days, rather bare, and very clean. Mrs. Cathers's room remained; but that came under the same category. There was not even anything lying about in it. She kept all her possessions in a small trunk, which was locked. There was no looking-glass in the room; and the key was inside the door. Did she fasten herself in at night, and remain so, unmoved by any shrieks or cries for help from up stairs? There was nothing to be learned here.

I had only one more place to visit, a small yard at the back of the house. Originally, perhaps, it had been a garden; for there were a couple of lilac-bushes and a holly at one end of it; but these had evidently not borne a leaf for years, and being coated with a thick garment of soot, stood up against the dark, mildewed walls like black spectres. They were high walls, so high that even if there had been any sun it could hardly have forced an entrance; and the ground beneath was black, too, and sodden with moisture.

At one side there was a huge tub for rain-water, and a pile of old bottles; at the bottom a worm-eaten, tumbling-to-pieces summer-house. That was all. I do not know what took my steps to the last-named place. Standing there under the low leaden sky, and half hidden by the spectral lilac-bushes, it presented an appearance even more gloomy, sinister and desolate than the rest; yet something within me, something which I could not resist, seemed to force me to the door and compel me to look inside. There was nothing to be seen there at first—nothing, at least, but a pile of wood heaped up on one side, and a rusty old chopper lying across some of the billets with which Mrs. Cathers had evidently been chopping them up for her fire: but as I stood gazing, something living seemed to move at one end of the woodstack; and to my unutterable horror—a horror which must have been felt to be understood—there came out a large yellow cat, very gaunt and rough-skinned, with an unusually big head and only one eye.

For the moment I thought I should have fainted again. This animal, hideous in itself, and the very face-simile of that whose horrible gambols I had witnessed the previous night, seemed like a part of that ghastly scene risen up again in proof of its reality; and for a minute or so the walls of the building seemed to swim around with me, and I was forced to lean on the wood-stack to save myself from falling. Then I saw that the ground where the animal had been crouching was hollowed into a hole, partly by her own claws, partly, perhaps, by chopping billets on it; and at the present moment she had returned there, and was licking and growling over a bone, which, from its whiteness and the earth on one end of it, appeared to have been disinterred in the process. It was a very small bone, not bigger than that in a rabbit's fore-leg or a human finger; and close to it I saw a gleam of something else, also white, showing through the loosened mold. Conquering my repugnance I stooped down, and with a shrinking beyond all words, and which gives me a sick feeling now to think of it, drew out this white thing, discovering it to be a second bone resembling the first. A few blackish fibres like threads were hanging from to it, and to a fragment of stuff—muslin, apparently—was adhering.

The cat lay still, watching me all the while with her one vicious eye, and growling furtively. With an involuntary gesture of disgust I dropped the bone almost as soon as I had touched it, but the bit of muslin had got caught on my finger, and obliged me to look at it more closely. It was a scrap of cambric about nine inches long and two broad, hemmed at one side and gathered at the other, like a frill or ruffle; but it had evidently been torn roughly from the article of dress to which it belonged, and one end was stained with some dark-brown liquid, which had dried and caked it into a hard, crumpled mass.

Like a frill or ruffle! Like—like—good God! was it only a fancy?—the ruffles at her wrist; and stained with—

How I left that horrible house I hardly know, but five minutes later I was outside it in the open street, and I have never entered it again. For several weeks I lay very ill in Russell place; so ill that Hester was sent for from Aldershot to help the L——'s in nursing me; and as soon as I was well enough to be moved she took me back there with her, and afterward returned with me to the North, where I have remained quietly almost ever since. On the second day of my illness Mrs. L—— and my brother-in-law went to the house in Melrose square. Mrs. Cathers was there and opened the door to them, professing great alarm at my absence and entire innocence as to anything in the house being the occasion of it; but when she found that one of their first objects was to summarily send her about her business her manner altered, and she sturdily refused to go, declaring that she had been put into the house by the other lady and the landlord, and that no one had a right to send her off at a moment's warning because a poor, weak-minded lady had got a fever. She had done all she could for her, and tried to keep her in bed; though as to drugging her that was all an invention, and she would swears she had not.

Let them take her to a magistrate and try; and if the poor, silly woman would get up and go out what could be expected but she would get worse? Why, she had seen at the very beginning what a nervous, hysterical state she was in; and had told the landlord she did not much like being alone with such a person; and the least she expected was a month's board and wages in compensation. Tom had written to the landlord already, and an angry interview and correspondence ensued, the latter gentleman persisting in treating all suspicion of there being anything in the house as equally childish and insulting, had the ground of the summer-house been dug up, and triumphantly pointed out that there was nothing buried there (this was a week after my visit to the spot, and who could tell what had been done in the interim?) and spoke of me uniformly as a poor, nervous bibliomaniac, worked up into a brain fever by a disordered digestion and an over-wrought brain. Indeed, he even threatened to claim a quarter's rent, declaring that the house had been taken for six months; but my brother-in-law fought this valiantly, and he had to be content with the month's rent he had received in advance.

As to Mrs. Cathers, she disappeared during the quarrel between her superiors, and was heard of no more. My firm belief is, and always will be, that she was aware of the evil character of the house, and was paid heavily by the landlord to act as servant to his tenants in it, and cast a slur on anything they might declare they had seen there. He, of course, spoke of her as a person of the highest character, and pointed to the fact that none of my property had been disturbed in my absence as proof thereof.

But what was the explanation of the mystery? What was the dark secret of this house so strangely shadowed forth to me, a plain matter-of-fact woman of the nineteenth century? After minute inquiries among the neighbors and shopkeepers in the vicinity, I can only say I do not know! The mystery is still unexplained; the secret is still hidden in those dreary walls, never probably, to be unveiled on earth.

All that the lawyer and Mrs. L——, acting for me, could find in their research was this: The house had been untenanted for a year and a half before I took it; the last people who lived there being a blind old lady, with her husband and two servants. The aged couple used to go to bed very early, and the servants slept down stairs and never spoke of having heard anything out of common; but one night the husband, having to come down stairs for his wife's medicine, must have missed his footing, for he was heard falling to the bottom, and was picked up speechless and dying. The blind widow went away after that, and the household broke up.

Who had the household before them? Oh, a young couple; but they only staid a week or so, and left suddenly. Reported in the neighborhood that the landlord turned them out; said they were not respectable people.

And before that? Before that it had been empty a good while, ever since the old gentleman lived there who owned it and was uncle the present landlord. Married? No; nor likely to have been; a very ill-favored old gent, and not pleasant in his manners, either. Had a ward living with him, however—a young lady; but she was said to be a sad invalid, never went out, and no one ever saw her, except now and then at an upper window. They went away all in a hurry to France—indeed, no one knew till they were gone; for they were not sociable, only kept one servant, latterly a chairwoman who did not sleep in the house, and had no acquaintances in the neighborhood. Folks said the young lady died abroad, and perhaps her guardian found the house lonesome without her; for though he came back after a time, he did not stay. Anyhow, he was dead, too, now; for that was how the house came to the present owner, who had never lived there himself, but let it just as it stood, furnished.

Deed! And there was an end to the clue, if any had existed. It could be traced no further. Probably it never will be now, since, as I have said, the man and his ward are both dead; though how she died, or where, no one will ever know save God, who looks down on every ghastly secret of this earth and suffers it to lie hidden in his hand until the day of judgment. Anyhow, the house there is now, empty. You may pass it any day and read the big "To Let" in sprawling letters on a card in the dining-room window. No one has ever opened the shutters in that dreary room. A rumor has got about that Number Two is haunted, and that evil sights are seen there; and the landlord cannot let it in consequence. This is why he is now threatening me with an action for libel; and if he chooses he may, of course, carry it out. In my defence I can only make a plain statement, the same that I have written here. Let any one else make what further examination he pleases, and draw his own conclusions.—*All the Year Round.*

The Conference at Berlin.

On Wednesday, June 16th, a notable gathering of diplomatists assembled in Berlin. They were the ambassadors of the great powers—Great Britain, France, Russia, Austria and Italy—at the German court; and with them sat the German minister of Foreign Affairs, Prince Hohenlohe.

The object of this gathering was to see what steps could be taken to carry out those provisions of the Treaty of Berlin which still remain unfulfilled. That treaty it will be remembered, was signed in July, 1878, and its purpose was to make a settlement of the questions involved in the war between Russia and Turkey.

Some of its articles—especially those relating to the formation of Bulgaria as a free principality, and of Eastern Roumanir as a semi-independent province of Turkey—have already been put into effect. But there are other provisions of the treaty of only less importance to those concerning Bulgaria and Roumania, which Turkey has hitherto been unwilling to put into operation.

Among these unfulfilled provisions, by far the most prominent is that which refers to the young kingdom of Greece. The statesmen who framed the treaty did not insist, in so many words, upon the cession of any territory from Turkey to Greece; but expressed the wish of Europe to be that such a cession should be made.

When Greece became independent of Turkey, about fifty years ago, and after many centuries of bondage, was formed once more into a free nation, there still remained, and have remained to this day, certain provinces inhabited by Greek populations, under the rule of the Sultan. The principal of these provinces lie in the ancient Greek States of Thessaly and Epirus; both of which border on the frontiers of the present Greek Kingdom, and whose people ardently desire to join their Greek fellow-countrymen. The old historic city of Janina is included in this region, and the Greeks are especially eager to annex it to their realm.

When the Russo-Turkish War broke out in 1877, the Greeks thought they saw their opportunity to obtain these provinces, and prepared to join in the war against the Sultan. But they were urged to desist from hostilities by the European powers, and were encouraged by these powers to expect some of the coveted territory at the end of the war, as the price of keeping the peace.

Such an intention was, as we have seen, inserted in the Treaty of Berlin; but up to this day, the hope of the Greeks has not been realized. The chief purpose of the present Conference at Berlin, however, is to fulfil it. The two powers who have most earnestly urging this are France and England. Lord Beaconsfield's Cabinet were not active in supporting the claims of Greece; but Mr. Gladstone, his successor, is an ardent friend of the Greeks, and has lost no time in manifesting his friendship.

There can be no doubt that the result of the Conference will be that the Turks will be compelled to give up poations of Thessaly and Epirus to the Greeks; and that if the Sultan refuses or hesitates to do so, he will be coerced by the powers, even if it has to be done by force of arms.

The only other point of the first importance to be considered by the Conference is the demand of the little mountain principality of Montenegro that the territory ceded to her by the Berlin Treaty shall be given up to her. Montenegro aided Russia in the war; and as her reward, a slice of territory in Albania was allotted to her.

But the Albanians, probably with the connivance of the Turks themselves, have forcibly resisted the occupation of the ceded district by the Montenegrin troops; and Turkey is now to be forced to consent, and the Albanians to relinquish it by the authority of the united powers of Europe.

It will be readily seen that in this action there is serious danger of war. The Turks may resist to the bitter end, even in the face of all Europe combined; and if they should, no one could tell what would be the final outcome of the struggle; though there can be little doubt that it would at least be the death-struggle of the Sultan's dominions in Europe.

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Grandfather's Kitchen.

"My grandfather's kitchen was a somber room, ceiled and painted brown, with huge beams, high dressers and yawning fireplace. It had only two small windows, and was entered by nine doors. What it lacked by day was light and sunshine. At night, brightened by a roaring back-log, it was full of cheer. Then its beams and ceilings and simple furnishings were enriched by shadows, and the pewter dishes upon its brown dressers shone in dancing firelight like silver. The two shelves, full of leather-covered books; the weather-wise almanac, hanging from a peg; the cross-legged crane, with its hissing teakettle; the bellows; the settle in the corner, and whatever else was there, all became fire-changed, and were mellowed into the bright scene. The room was by night the best part of the house. It was always the true heart of it; the vital center from which diverged its indwelling life. It was the place where people lounged and lingered. Because its small windows let in a few sunbeams, those which did come in were all the more pernicious. Because it was full of homely things and was, as the woman 'most convenient,' it had inwrought into it, as a picture, a quaint beauty of adaption. Mellow, brown old kitchen—how many costly rooms stimulate in their furnishings, your inexpensive colors!"—*New England Bygones.*

Black Hearts and White Hearts.

As the cherry season comes round, how the "jolly" times that we children used to have years ago come to mind.

I can seem to see and taste, even now, those polished beauties, hanging in twos and threes on their slender stems under the green leaves those hot June days in the Kentish cherry orchards; and hear the "Cuckoo, cuckoo" from the grove near by, sounding so soft and warm, as if the bird's throat was lined with velvet.

The counties of Kent and Surrey in England are noted for their delicious cherries.

The smartly dressed fruit-women who used to roll their long barrows through the streets of London more than fifty years ago, crying, "Cherry ripe! Chery ripe! Cherries big as plums! Who comes? Who comes!" always got a higher price for these fine cherries than for any others.

These travelling fruit-barrows, with their tempting piles of gloss "red and black hearts" in the middle of the barrow, and the rows of "ha'penny sticks" that decorated the sides, were a wonderfully pretty peep and taste of the country to the poor little city children, who looked forward to "cherry time" something as you in New England do to "Thanksgiving."

Talking of cherries reminds me of a great day that the children in Hamburg celebrate, called the "Feast of Cherries."

All the boys and girls parade the streets dressed in their best clothes, and carry green boughs decorated with cherries.

This festival is to commemorate a great victory that was obtained by the children of Hamburg in 1432, and which saved the city.

The Hussites threatened to destroy it, and the poor people were in great terror. Then it was proposed by one of the citizens named Wolf, that all the children in the city from seven to fourteen years of age should be dressed in mourning and sent as supplicants to Procopius Nasus, who was at the head of the Hussites, to plead for the doomed city.

Procopius certainly was not a very hard-hearted man, for his heart was so touched by this mournful procession that he not only received the children kindly, but treated them with cherries, and promised to spare ther beloved city.

The children returned with great joy, crowned with leaves, carrying bunches of cherries in their hands, and shouting, Victory."

No wonder the little Hamburgs still keep up "The Feast of Cherries" in remembrance of the great victory obtained by the children in "cherry time" more than four hundred years ago.

Little Mat's Sunday.

Little Mat's father was a man of business, and was seldom at home much in the daytime except on the Sabbath; the day when her mother heard the children say the commandments in the evening twilight.

One day it was very cold and stormy, and the roads were so badly drifted that her father could not drive about, so he was at home most of the day.

It seemed as if it must be Sunday, and as dark came on, little Mat climbed into her mamma's lap and said, "Now, let's say the 'mandments!"

☞You can not dream yourself into a character, you must hammer and forge yourself one.

Young Folks' Column.

Grandpa's Farm.

Oh, summer-vacation is almost here!
And where do you think that we
Are going to spend it, Nellie and I?
At the mountains or the sea?

Oh, *grandpa's farm* is a thousand times
Better than either, we say!
'Tis the jolliest spot in all the world
For a summer holiday!

There are hens and chickens, calves and pigs:
And many a swallow's nest
Up in the roof of the barn, and *this*
Is the place we both love best.

There's nothing so sweet on earth, we think,
As this great barn full of hay;
And there we frolic and shout and dance
And sing the livelong day!

So *you* may go wherever you please,
To the mountains or the sea,
If you'll only leave the beautiful farm,
To grandpa, Nellie and me!

The Strange Kitten.

One pleasant summer day when I was a little girl, I went to spend the afternoon with another little girl named Charlotte Berry. I wore new shoes and a new delaine dress, and my hair was braided in two braids behind and tied up with brown satin ribbon.

Charlotte lived around on another street, and her house had a very large yard, with plenty of green grass to play on, and tress to rest under. There was a wall on two sides of the yard, and when we climbed up to look over, we could see the blue waters of the cove and the fishing boats. There were blue bells and lillies of the valley growing in the grass, and a swing under one of the trees, and many other reasons why I liked to go to play with Charlotte.

She was a good-natured girl with rosy cheeks, blue eyes, and red hair. Her sister Annie, who was younger, had dark eyes and dark hair, and her brother Joshua had red hair and a very freckled face. Then there was their Aunt Barbara, who was very, very fat and kind-hearted, and who wore a cap.

That afternoon after Charlotte and I had played a little while with the dishes and dolls, we ran out into the yard, and presently roamed around by the back door, where we suddenly spied a little kitten gnawing at a fish-bone which some one had thrown out on the ground.

"Oh, what a little darling!" I exclaimed, and then we both began calling very softly, "Kitty, kitty," hoping we could catch it.

Just at that minute Joshua Berry came around the corner of the house. He was a teasing kind of boy, and when he saw us trying to catch the kitten he ran up, exclaiming,—

"What a mean old kitten! I'll throw a stone at it."

"O Josh, don't, don't!" we begged, but he did. He threw a stone at the poor frightened kitten, who sprang desperately over the wall and disappeared.

"You're a bad boy!" I said, half crying. "We wanted that kitty!"

"Let's go tell Aunt Barbara!" said Charlotte, and we ran into the house, and found the good kind aunt sitting in her rocking-chair mending. We told her all our woes, and she said,—

"Joshua is a naughty boy to tease little girls so. I'll send him off on an errand that will keep him out of your way."

So she called him, and gave him an errand which would take him half a mile away, and keep him waiting there, too. He didn't want to go, but he had to, so he walked slowly off, looking back over his shoulder as he went.

Then Charlotte and I ran again to the back door, and called, "Kitty, kitty!" very gently for a long time.

At last the little thing came timidly on the wall, and by approachiug it gradually and softly, we first stroked its back, and then took it down into our arms. Oh, how thin and light it was, and it purred in a pitiful, eager way.

We carried it into the house and showed it.

"Oh, dear me, Charlotte," said Mrs. Berry. "We can't have that forlorn kitten around here! You had better put it right over the wall, and let it run home."

"Oh, let me have it!" I exclaimed. "I want it for my kitten."

"Will your mother let you keep it?" asked Mrs. Berry.

"Oh yes, I know she will," I said.

"Well, then," said Aunt Barbara, "I'll shut the poor little thing up in my room, so it can't runaway, and when you go home you can take it along."

So she carried it up to her room, and Charlotte and I ran out to play again. It did not seem long before we were called in to supper. I remmember just what we had; hot biscuits and honey, and little sweet cakes full of seeds.

After supper I said I must go home, so Aunt Barbara brought down the kitten, which she had found asleep on her bed; and while I put on my things, she gave it a saucer of milk. Then I took it in my apron, and ran home to show my treasure to my mother.

"Why, Mary!" said mother, when I held it up before her. "We don't want a kitten like that. We have a good cat already, you know."

"O mother, it is so poor and so nice, do let me keep it," I begged. And she did let me.

At first we named it "Stranger," because it was a little stranger, but as it grew fat and pretty and playful, I changed its name to "Beauty." Then for a while I called it "Tiger-Lily," but that was when it had grown to be quite a cat. It was while its name was "Beauty" that I one day cut off a little lock of its black and white hair, and did it up in a piece of tissue paper, to remember my pet by. I laid it in a drawer of a small toy bureau, and there it is now to this day, waiting for my little girl to be big enough to have for her own, bureau, cat's hair, and all.

Whenever I tell her the story she always jumps up at this point, and exclaims, "Me are big enough now, mamma!"—*Companion.*

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